



Kuwait ruler ends visit to Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, ended a three-day state visit Monday and left for Paris, the first stop of tour of Europe and Africa. He was seen off at the airport by President Saddam Hussein, who earlier in the day presented him with a gold-plated Iraqi-made Kalashnikov automatic rifle and Iraq's highest decoration, the Rafikain Medal. The Iraqi honoured Jaber for Kuwait's support for Baghdad during the war with Iran. In addition to political backing, Kuwait is believed to have provided Iraq with about \$10 billion in financial aid to prop up its economy during the conflict. Fighting halted in the war in August last year when a United Nations-sponsored cease-fire took effect. Sheikh Jaber, making his first visit to Iraq since the ceasefire, and Hussein met twice Saturday and Sunday to discuss bilateral relations and developments in the region, Iraqi television reported. It gave no details. But the Kuwaitis, along with other Gulf Arab states, are eager to see Iraq and Iran negotiate a formal peace treaty to end the conflict. The Iraqi News agency quoted the Emir as saying in a departure statement that his visit reflected the "brotherly and close ties" between Iraq and Kuwait.

Jordan Times

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Swedish royal couple leaves

AQABA (Petra) — King Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden left Aqaba Monday at the end of a week-long stay in the Kingdom at the invitation of Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor. The Swedish monarch and Queen Silvia toured historic and archaeological sites in the Kingdom after concluding their three-day state visit and visits to Amman and other places of interest. King Gustaf took part several economic and scientific meetings and acquainted himself with various projects being implemented in Jordan with help from the government of Sweden. King Hussein and Queen Noor, along with His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Al Hussein, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Royal Court Chief Mudar Badran and other senior officials were at Aqaba airport to bid farewell to the Swedish royal couple. Upon his departure, King Gustaf sent a cable to King Hussein and Queen Noor voicing deep appreciation for the hospitality accorded to them and their accompanying delegation during their stay in Jordan. The Swedish monarch voiced hope that the visit would further bolster ties of friendship and cooperation between Sweden and Jordan in all fields.

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A woman kneels and prays after she had returned to Beirut with her children following Friday's ceasefire.

Lebanese parliament to meet in S. Arabia Saturday

BEIRUT (AP) — Arab League envoy Lakhdar Al Ibrahim announced after a one-hour meeting Monday with Parliament Speaker Hussein Hussein that the 73 surviving members of Lebanon's 99-seat parliament will meet in Saudi Arabia Saturday to work out political reforms aimed at ending the 14-year-old civil war.

He said he will contact Saudi authorities to decide on a venue. There was speculation it will be held in the Red Sea port of Jeddah.

That marked a major advance in the efforts by the 22-member Arab League to bring Lebanon's feuding factions together to thrash out a formula aimed at reunifying the fragmented country.

Guns fired more than 80 shells into the Christian enclave and Ibrahim appealed to both sides to abide by a two-day-old ceasefire that has brought one

million refugees flooding back to Beirut.

Police reported no casualties in the barrage that hit pine woods near the mountain towns of Beit Meri and Ain Saadeh, 16 kilometres northeast of Beirut. But army commander by Michel Aoun did not fire back and the ceasefire appeared to hold.

There was no official explanation for the bombardment of the thinly-populated mountain slopes.

The shelling was a graphic reminder that nothing is certain in Lebanon.

The shelling was the first serious violation of the ceasefire since it took hold Saturday. It prompted Ibrahim to call on "all sides to abide by the ceasefire... and to believe that there is a new chance for peace."

He made the appeal after a meeting in east Beirut with Samir Geagea, leader of the right-wing

Lebanese Forces.

Ibrahim, deputy secretary-general of the Arab League, later presided over a meeting of a security committee made up of Christian and Muslim officials to assess efforts to consolidate the ceasefire.

The truce was called last week by a three-member Arab League committee assigned to find a settlement to the civil war in which more than 150,000 people have been killed.

A member of the security committee, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it was considering "setting up a liaison office to monitor implementation of the truce around the clock, coordinate contacts between committee members and facilitate relaying instructions to the various factions involved in the conflict."

Two Algerian army officers, Jumaa Ramadan and Sharif Khodary, arrived in Beirut Monday to help Ibrahim.

ACC leaders endorse 16 accords

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — The heads of states of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) who opened a summit here Monday endorsed 16 agreements worked out earlier by their heads of governments, ACC Secretary-General Hilmi Nammur announced.

Addressing a press conference here shortly after the four leaders — His Majesty King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh — held their first session, Nammur said they would also issue a political statement Tuesday.

The Sanaa summit is mainly aimed at consolidating economic integration among the four member countries of the ACC. The agree-

ments endorsed Monday mainly deal with economic issues, parliamentary affairs and manpower employment, Nammur told the press conference.

Earlier, addressing the opening session of the summit, President Saleh urged the international community to end the Israeli occupation authorities' oppressive measures against the Palestinians living in the occupied territories and reaffirmed support for the Palestinians struggle for li-

beration. The summit also appealed to the various Lebanese factions to arrive at an understanding and preserve their country's unity and Arab identity.

Saleh called on Iran to accept proposals for a peace agreement with Iraq.

Also addressing the session, President Hussein of Iraq reviewed the various stages of the ACC and underlined the regional bloc's role in shouldering the Arab Nation's aspirations.

The Iraqi leader said his country wished the Arab tripartite committee success in its endeavours to resolve the Lebanese problem. A solution to the problem depends on national reconciliation, respect for Lebanon as an independent state and withdrawal of all foreign forces from the country, he said.

The Jordanian delegation to

the summit include Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, the King's Aviation and Tourism Affairs Advisor Ali Ghandour, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Ibrahim Izzeddine, Minister of Culture and Information Nassouh Majali, Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Annab, Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hikmat Al Khammash, Minister of Justice Rateb Al Wazani and the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force.

This summit is intended to establish a practical framework leading ultimately to a common market on the pattern of the European Community.

Accords endorsed Monday cover such topics as trade, the

war against drugs trafficking, agriculture, education and migrant workers.

The three visiting heads of state will also join North Yemen's revolution which opened the way for the creation of a modern state.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is also expected for the anniversary although his travel plans have, as usual, not been made public.

Crowds shouting "Long live Arab unity, long live the ACC" lined the route for what was one of the most exciting events in the country's modern history.

It was the third summit of the alliance born last February, seeking a common market like two other similar groupings within the Arab League — one in Maghreb and one in the Gulf.

Israeli cabinet blocks debate on Cairo initiative

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's divided government, in an effort to ease a political crisis, united Monday to prevent a parliamentary debate on Egyptian proposals for peace talks with Palestinians.

"There is no desire by any party to exacerbate the differences right now," said Avi Pazner, spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

"I think there is a common hope to keep this government together," he told Reuters.

Acting on a government appeal, parliament voted to dismiss motions by opposition parties to debate the Egyptian proposals, which have widened a rift between Shamir's rightist Likud bloc and its Labour Party coalition partner.

The proposals, building on an Israeli plan for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, envisage Israelis negotiating in Cairo with representatives

for Palestinians waging the 21-month-old uprising.

For the government, Likud Environment Minister Ronni Milo said there was no point in debating the proposals until the cabinet sought a compromise early next month when key ministers returned from abroad.

Yossi Sarid, of the leftist opposition Citizens Rights Movement, ridiculed Shamir's refusal to meet Palestinians approved by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"What Palestinian are you looking for?" he asked. "One that is not PLO? With no tie to the PLO? One who opposes the uprising, who is not from Jerusalem... who will go blindly?"

But right-wing legislator Goula Cohen of the Tehiya Party told Shamir to stand firm against Labour pressure to accept Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's proposals for talks between Israeli and Palestinian delega-



Hosni Mubarak

tions on elections.

"I am glad that Shamir has seen what a trap that is," she told parliament.

Israel's elections plan could lead to interim self-rule in the occupied territories, but remains mired in conflicting Israeli and Palestinian demands.

Mubarak put forward 10 points seeking clarifications or conditions about the plan and proposed direct talks to move it forward.

Palestinian killed in Gaza

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies) — Unknown assailants killed an alleged Arab collaborator and seriously injured another in a Gaza Strip refugee camp Monday.

It was the sixth such death in four days and the fourth in Gaza's Rafah refugee camp recently.

Masked men stabbed 35-year-old Zayid Abu Muhsein to death at a United Nations clinic where he worked in Rafah camp, United Nations relief workers said.

Said Abu Shawish, 55, an employee at nearby Khan Younis municipality, was stabbed in a separate incident, hospital offi-

cials said. He had been attacked before.

An army spokeswoman later said masked assailants had killed a Palestinian in a U.N. clinic and attacked another Rafah resident and that police were investigating.

Leaders of the uprising have demanded the resignation of Palestinians working at any Israeli-run institution. But recently they called for an end to such attacks.

In the West Bank city of Tulkarm, police questioned four Jewish residents of the Ariel settlement on suspicion they threw stones and petrol bombs at Jew-

ish drivers six months ago to provoke attacks on Palestinians.

Four others were questioned Sunday.

No one was injured in the incidents, but settlers from Givat Shimon who were attacked demonstrated on the West Bank roads against Arabs, Israel radio reported.

Settlers from Ariel organised a "civil guard" several months ago saying they wanted to protect the settlement from Arabs.

But Palestinians accused them of indiscriminately rampaging through Arab villages, shooting and destroying property after stoning incidents.

Sharif Zaid pays tribute to Saudi-Jordanian ties

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker has paid tribute to the "distinguished, fraternal relations between Saudi Arabia and Jordan" and praised Riyadh's support for Arab and Islamic countries.

"Despite other priorities, Saudi Arabia has extended support to Arab and Islamic countries and contributed to consolidating stability (in the Middle East) and boosting cooperation," Sharif Zaid said in a statement given to the Saudi Press Agency (SPA). "The best evidence (of the Saudi stand) is (Riyadh's) latest aid to Jordan," he said in the statement, given on the occasion of Saudi Arabia's National Day.

The prime minister said Jordanian-Saudi relations "are characterised by common vision on fateful issues that face the Arab Nation, and the two countries

exert joint efforts in support of the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their rights and in endeavours to reach a peaceful settlement between Iran and Iraq."

"Jordanian-Saudi relations have spread to all fields, thanks to the wise leaderships of the two countries," he said.

Sharif Zaid expressed hope that the tripartite Arab committee on Lebanon would be successful in its search for a just and comprehensive solution to the Lebanese civil war.

He also praised the special attention and care that the Saudi authorities are giving to Jordanian expatriates in Saudi Arabia. He lauded Saudi Arabia's development achievements and the security that the kingdom offers to pilgrims to the holy places there.

Bush suggests scrapping all chemical arsenal

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — President George Bush Monday proposed the elimination of all U.S. chemical weapons if matched by the Soviet Union and all nations that have the weapons or capability to make them.

"The world has lived too long in a shadow of chemical warfare," Bush told the United Nations General Assembly, seeking to spur a 40-nation treaty conference aimed at banning the weapons entirely. He proposed a worldwide ban on chemical weapons within 10 years of the signing of an international treaty ending their manufacture and storage.

While the chemical weapons plan was the centerpiece of his remarks, Bush also dealt with what he called "the rise of freedom" around the world.

"Today we are witnessing an ideological collapse, the demise of the totalitarian idea of the omniscient, all-powerful state," he said.

Bush said freedom was advancing in Hungary, Poland, Latin America and Africa.

"Make no mistake, nothing can stand in the way of freedom's march," the president said.

During his speech, the first time Bush was addressed the United Nations as president, he paid tribute to the Soviet Union for removing "a number of obstacles" on treaties reducing long-range nuclear weapons, as well as troops and tanks in Europe.

"We have not entered an era of perpetual peace," the president said. He cautioned that governments throughout the world were emerging "armed with old and unappeasable animosities and modern weapons of mass destruction."

He said regional conflicts "may well threaten world peace as never before."

Bush's offer to slash U.S. chemical weapons stockpiles was both a challenge to the Soviet Union to follow his lead and an invitation to the 38 other nations whose negotiations in Geneva to ban the weapons are moving slowly.

The U.S. Congress has already passed legislation requiring the administration to destroy old chemical weapons by 1997.

Soviet Foreign Minister



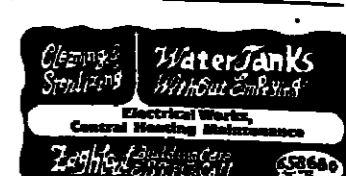
George Bush

Eduard Shevardnadze was given advance word of Bush's proposal during his weekend meetings with Secretary of State James Baker. At the sessions in the western resort town of Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Baker and Shevardnadze agreed on a two-stage U.S.-Soviet programme to exchange information about their chemical weapons and to inspect each other's plants and arsenals.

Only the United States and the Soviet Union admit having poison gas. But Bush said more than 20 nations possess chemical weapons or the capability to produce them.

"And these horrible weapons are now finding their way into regional conflicts," he said. "This is unacceptable."

Bush's announcement comes on the heels of an agreement signed during the weekend by Baker and Shevardnadze on the exchange of data on chemical weapons by the end of the year and allow visits by inspectors of the other side to stockpiles and plants by June 30. In a second phase, there would be more intensive on-site inspections of the submitted data.



Rumblings of peace from Lebanon's children

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

"IS THERE anyone here from Zahle?" asks the speaker.

"Yes," reply a hundred young voices.

"Is there anyone here from Saida?" comes next.

"Yes," reply another hundred voices.

"Is there anyone here from Palestinian camps?"

"Yes," reply yet a hundred or more voices.

"Is there anyone here from Beirut?"

"Yes," comes the answer from a thousand throats.

"Is there anyone from Tripoli?"

"Yes, yes, yes."

"Is there anyone here from Lebanon?"

"Yesssssss..." the stadium reverberates with the roar of over 10,000 voices.

Well, that was an attempt at capturing the climax of a unique event in a small town in Lebanon's western Bekaa Valley Sunday as recounted to the Jordan Times by a senior U.N. official.

What was the occasion? "A peace camp for the children of Lebanon," says Richard Reid, regional director general of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Unbelievable as it may sound, Reid adds, the event was attended by 9,000 children between the age of five and 12. "They came from Zahle, from Saida, from Hazroun, from Nabatiyeh, from east and west Beirut and even from Israel's self-styled 'security zone' in South Lebanon, to share a day of peace and solidarity, transcending the violence and bloodshed in the country," according to Reid. "Not a single niche or corner of Lebanon was overlooked in the campaign that led up to the gathering in the town of Khyarah."

What was the message? "Solidarity and unity among the Lebanese, the country's oneness and abhorrence of violence and bloodshed," Reid said. "We brought together children from some of the

most radically divided villages and groups in Lebanon to share something — their common identity and an awareness that they are still brothers and sisters despite the long years of war.

"The aim was to build a sense of brotherhood and inter-Lebanese solidarity — a foundation of tolerance and understanding — transcending factional lines, as a kind of national insurance for the future."

"Children came pouring into Khyarah to the event, which was the climax of 105 peace camps that UNICEF organised in 87 villages and towns in Lebanon during July, August and September in cooperation with several leading non-governmental organisations and institutions," Reid explains. Each camp was attended by about 100 to 150 boys and girls between five and 12 under the supervision of "monitors" — boys and girls of university age.

"Yearning for peace"

One of the most impressive features of the gathering was parental cooperation to send their children criss-crossing the violence-plagued areas of Lebanon to the Bekaa Valley town. Reid interprets it as "a yearning for peace among the Lebanese, particularly that some of the children who came to Khyarah were sons or daughters of the same people" who plot and lead battles against their rivals. "For many of the children Khyarah would normally have been 'out of bounds' because of security considerations," notes Reid, who personally attended the gathering and addressed the children.

During the camps in Khyarah, "Children were deliberately mixed so as to reinforce friendship despite differences in political or religious backgrounds," he says.

"It was a touching, emotionally profound event," Reid recalls. "There were children from extraordinarily diverse backgrounds, rich and poor, Muslim and Christian, Palestinian and

Lebanese, all of them somehow motivated by the awareness that all of them share the country's fate, better or worse."

It was only a coincidence that the peace camp was staged two days after an Arab League sponsored ceasefire took hold to end six months of savage battles, some of the fiercest the country saw in its turbulent history since 1975 when the civil war broke out, according to Reid. "But, it helped," he adds. "It was as if the leaders were saying 'it's time we had a ceasefire since our children are going to meet in the Bekaa Valley.'"

For once in many years, the roads of Lebanon woke up early Sunday to the roar of over 100 buses carrying children to Khyarah instead of the rumblings of tanks and armoured carriers. The buses carried children representing "every shade of the political and religious spectrum of Lebanon — Amal and Hizbollah Shi'ites, Sunnis, Maronites, Eastern Orthodox etc. etc. etc.," Reid says.

Many of these buses had to take sidestreets and alleys to skirt known "trouble spots" despite the ceasefire, obviously since the Lebanese have seen too many ceasefires come and go in the last decade and a half.

The Khyarah camp was planned two months ago, during the height of the latest spasm of violence in Lebanon, as a sequel to the earlier peace camps. Reid estimates that over 23,000 children attended those camps.

"It was the best agreement for keeping a ceasefire that I've seen," Reid told the Jordan Times Monday. "There was enough energy in the Omar Al Mokhtar Stadium in Khyarah to raise an artillery shield over half of Lebanon."

Forum for communications

"Beaming, waving youngsters wearing T-shirts with the logo 'We are Building Together for Peace', participated in the fun games and com-

Hassan II begins first official trip to Spain

MADRID (AP) — King Hassan II of Morocco Monday began his first state visit to Spain, making a historic step towards smoothing relations between Madrid and Rabat.

The trip comes a decade after an official visit by King Juan Carlos to Morocco, a former French and Spanish protectorate visible from Spain's southern tip across the Strait of Gibraltar.

During the three-day visit the two countries were expected to sign bilateral accords to increase defence cooperation and promote Spanish investment in Morocco.

At a briefing for reporters prior to the visit, Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez said the government views the trip as one "of historic dimensions."

In recent interviews with Spanish journalists, Hassan said his visit was "a milestone in and of itself."

He also said he wanted to "reduce to its authentic dimension" the dispute over the sovereignty of Ceuta and Melilla, the two enclaves on Morocco's northern coast that Spain has held since the 16th century.

Spain administered northern

Morocco under an agreement with the French, who established a protectorate there in 1912. Morocco became independent in 1956 under Hassan's father, Mohammed V.

Hassan was to meet with Juan Carlos, and Socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and dine with Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia.

The military agreement to be signed by the two countries provides for joint manoeuvres, information and strategy sharing, cadet exchanges and future co-production of arms. Over the last decade, Spain has sold Morocco more than \$1 billion worth of military hardware.

The economic accord aims to guarantee movement on Spanish development projects stemming from a June 1988 pact extending a Spanish government-backed line of credit of up to 125 billion pesetas (\$1.02 billion).

The two countries were also to subscribe to a statement of commitment to build a bridge or tunnel across the 20.8-kilometre wide strait, a project Hassan supports as part of his efforts to increase ties with the EC.

A preliminary study conducted

last year estimated a "fixed link" would cost more than \$8 billion and take 10 years to construct.

Morocco's claim to Ceuta and Melilla is the toughest diplomatic issue facing the two countries, but it is not the only one.

Last fall, Hassan postponed a scheduled visit after Spain voted for a United Nations-supervised referendum to determine the fate of the Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony which Morocco has occupied since the Spanish pullout in 1975.

The Western Sahara is also claimed by the Polisario National Liberation Front, which has been waging a guerrilla war against the Moroccan army since then.

Although Morocco has accepted in principle a referendum of the Western Sahara's 73,000 residents, Hassan has refused to negotiate with the Polisario front unless they come to him as Moroccan subjects.

In the briefing, Fernandez



Afghan police search through the wreckage of a military truck which exploded in Kabul recently.

Afghan rebels claim closing Kabul-Jalalabad highway

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — U.S.-backed rebels said Monday they closed a critical supply link between Kabul and Afghanistan's battered eastern city of Jalalabad.

Masoud Khalili, a spokesman of the Jamiat-Islami guerrilla group, said about 1,000 fighters overran four Communist government posts Sunday along the 125-kilometre road near Sarobi, 50 kilometres east of Kabul.

Guerrilla fighters have closed the Kabul-Jalalabad Highway periodically but they have been unable to keep the road blocked

for more than a few weeks. Khalili said the weapons supply to guerrillas will determine how long the latest effort lasts.

He said guerrillas still blocked the Salang Highway, a critical supply route between Kabul and the Soviet Union. Ahmad Shah Masoud, believed to be the strongest military commander among the guerrillas, reportedly closed the highway about two weeks ago.

Earlier this week, the area around Jalalabad was the scene of some of the bloodiest fighting in

the rebels' 11-year-old war to topple successive Communist governments in Kabul.

The effort to take Jalalabad, located 75 kilometres west of the Pakistan border, was seen by some as a test of guerrilla strength following last February's withdrawal of an estimated 103,000 Soviet soldiers from Afghanistan.

Despite initial successes, particularly at the key Communist garrison town of Samarkhel near Jalalabad, the guerrillas were stopped at the heavily fortified city limits.

Turkish army leads fight against rebels

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's army is taking full charge of the battle against Kurdish rebels in south-eastern Turkey to curb an upsurge in violence, sources close to the military said Monday.

Some senior field officers of the paramilitary gendarmerie, which has borne the brunt of fighting against the rebels since mid-1984, have been replaced by army men, they said.

The wide-ranging powers of the regional civilian governorship were being reduced, they added. Recent visitors to the south-east said border security had been stepped up, more troops were visible and a new army field hospital had been set up near Iskenderun.

The new tough policy follows a belief that a civilian-led hearts-and-minds campaign in Kurdish speaking areas near the Iranian, Iraqi and Syrian borders has not

been fully effective.

"The situation is heading for insurgency. Previously it was terrorism. The rebels appear to be gaining increased support from the local population," one foreign military source said.

The sources said the new policy was being implemented with no signs of major rifts between army and government, which is against any return of martial law, scrapped in the area in 1987.

Nearly 2,000 people have been killed in the five years since the Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) launched a campaign for independence for Turkey's estimated eight million Kurds.

A monthly average of about 70 people, including soldiers, have been killed since early May, up from an average of 30.

The PKK, with new bases in

operations to eastern Turkey.

"The terrorists, to reach their long and short-term aims, have preferred to use arms. We... must also use arms against arms as a matter of priority," General Necip Turuncbayrak, Turkey's top soldier, said in a rare statement last month.

A major problem in fighting the guerrillas, estimated by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to total up to 600, has been covering rugged terrain nearly half the size of Italy and troop training.

"Some soldiers spend only six months in the south east. This is too short," one Western officer said.

Helicopters are used widely in the area. The gendarmerie recently acquired six U.S.-designed Black Hawks, a successor to the Huey, and at least two more are reported to be on their way.

Missile test shows Israel is a nuclear power, Klibi says

TUNIS (R) — Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi, opening an emergency meeting of the League council Monday, said an Israeli missile test this month was a further sign that Israel was a nuclear power.

Libya requested the meeting after a Soviet report that the test missile landed in the Mediterranean about 250 miles north of the Libyan port city of Benghazi.

Klibi told the council, "the latest experimental launch of the Jericho 2 missile amounts to a clear indication that Israel has become a full member of the nuclear club."

"Now the Israeli threat is not directed only at Arab countries but also countries which are more

distant," he added.

He said the United States, because of its strategic agreement with Israel, faced contradictory demands in the Middle East — commitment to seeking peaceful solutions and "unlimited support... for a war machine which violates the values and principles to which the American people are deeply attached."

The council is expected to issue a statement condemning the missile test and asking the international community to restrain Israel's military development programme.

Most Arab countries have delegated their ambassadors in Tunis to represent their foreign ministers at the meeting.



Chadli Klibi

Song hails Palestinian bus attacker

TEL AVIV (R) — Palestinians in the Gaza Strip have glorified in song a local resident who forced an Israeli bus into a ravine last July killing 16 Jews.

To the tune of a popular wedding song, it praises "the Avenger" Abdul Hadi Suleiman Ghoneim, 22, who wrenched the wheel of a Tel Aviv-Jerusalem bus forcing it to plunge over a cliff, the Jerusalem Post reported

Monday. "When he called out the name of God, repeating Allahu Akbar (God is Great), he declared a Jihad (holy war)," the song says. Calling diminutive Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, "a dwarf" and "a Nazi," the lyrics said: "The Nazi must know, tomorrow the child will grow up, and take revenge."

The newspaper said a record-

ing of the song was being circulated in the occupied Gaza Strip. An accompanying statement reads: "The Palestinian people and its leadership denouncing any incident that hurts civilians and children."

"The bus incident was the act of an individual... but as long as the number of your crimes increases, the reactions will be stronger."

Husseini-Froman meeting sparks debate in settlements

TEL AVIV (AP) — A rare meeting between a Jewish settler rabbi and an Arab activist has sparked controversy among proponents of annexing occupied territory, exposing cracks created in the settler movement by the Palestinian uprising.

The two men, Rabbi Menachem Froman and Faisal Husseini, said Sunday that they found much common ground during a five-hour conversation but feared that unannounced publicity of their dialogue could bring it to an abrupt end.

Left-wing Israelis, notably of the "Peace Now" movement have held frequent meetings with Palestinians. But settler groups like Gush Emunim, or Bloc of the Faithful, which want Israel to annex the occupied lands, have never openly met with PLO supporters.

The Israeli-born Froman, 44, a Gush Emunim activist and a resident of Tekoa in the occupied West Bank, said he sought the Sept. 19 meeting with Husseini to try to arrange talks between Jewish and Muslim clerics.

"My first words were, 'you are my enemy and I know that, I have dealt with your people as a soldier,'" Froman said, recounting his talk with Husseini, a pro-PLO activist mentioned as a potential peace negotiator with Israel.

"But I consider it most important now to try to rescue the vestiges of Jewish-Arab coexistence," Froman added. He said he told Husseini more mutual Jewish-Arab trust could be built, if Palestinians would end their 21-month uprising.

In the uprising, 573 Palestinians have been killed, most by

gunfire from Israeli soldiers or Jewish settlers, and 119 Palestinians have been slain by fellow Arabs on suspicion of cooperation with Israel.

The uprising is aimed at ending Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, occupied in the 1967 Middle East war. More than 70,000 Israeli settlers live in enclaves in the territories among 1.7 million Palestinians.

Froman, who supports continued Israeli control over the disputed lands, said he suggested to Husseini a "utopian" compromise where Jews and Arabs would live side-by-side, each with their own government and national flag.

Husseini told the Associated Press he replied to Froman's ideas by saying they were "not exact but close" to the Palestinian dream of statehood.

Husseini, who has spent

more than 18 months in jail since 1987 for alleged PLO activism, said he felt more such meetings "will push our (Palestinian) peace proposals forward."

After news of the meeting was leaked over the weekend, Froman came under sharp attack from Gush Emunim leaders.

Movement spokesman Noam Arnon called Froman's action "treason against the settlement movement," and urged he be put on trial for meeting with a "terrorist."

Israeli newspapers said movement leaders also suggested that Froman be expelled from his settlement.

"Who can speak to this leader of terrorists?" said Eliakim Haetzni, an attorney for militant settlers in Kiryat Arba near the West Bank city of Hebron.

Other settlement activists,

while insisting Froman's meeting was an error, suggested that they sympathised with his motives. Some said Froman's initiative reflected a new trend of pragmatism among Jews living in the West Bank and Gaza.

"Politically people here (in the settlements) are now ready to take the tactical rather than ideological road," said Israel Harel, editor of a weekly settler magazine point.

Nearly two years of confronting stone-throwing Arab youths on the highways has played a role in this change, added Harel, who lives in Ofra in the West Bank.

"More than a few believe we have to give a chance to the Shamir-Rabin plan," which calls for an interim solution of self-rule for Arabs in these areas, Harel said. "We think the time has come to be political."

al. Two or three years ago you didn't see this."

Other signs of recent political softening by religious leaders include a controversial speech last month by a former Israeli chief rabbi, Ovadia Yosef, who suggested that Jewish law does not preclude trading territory for peace.

Another religious leader, Interior Minister Aryeh Deri of the ultra-orthodox Shas Party, told Armed Forces Radio Sunday that Israelis may be moving toward a more conciliatory policy.

"Do we want peace or not? My impression is the public sees things differently than a year ago, that the people are tired. They want to see some hope... I think that people understand that war and conflict cannot last forever," Deri said.

Kuwait dissolves board of Shi'ite public body

KUWAIT (AP) — The government has dissolved the board of directors of the Social Society of Culture, a public Shi'ite Muslim body, and appointed an interim board to run it for at least a year.

A decree issued by the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al Sabah banned withdrawal of any money deposited by the society at banks if not signed by the chairman of the new board, Dr. Saleh Ali Hassan Al Sheikh.

The decree also ordered the dissolved board to hand over all papers, documents, and money of the society within 24 hours to Sheikh.

The decision was taken "out of concern for the public interest, the interest of the members of the society and the social objectives of the country," said the decree as distributed by the Kuwait News Agency.

No other details were provided as to the direct reasons behind the dissolution of the board. But diplomats recalled that some of the Kuwaitis executed in Saudi Arabia in connection with the Mecca bombings and confessed they met at the society headquarters in Maidan Hawalli, 16 kilometres south of Kuwait City, to discuss their blueprint.

Although decree did not spell it

out, it is common knowledge that the society was set up and run by members of the minority Shi'ite community in Kuwait.

The 20 Kuwaitis who were convicted, with 16 beheaded and four imprisoned for the Mecca blasts, were all identified in the Saudi Interior Ministry statements as Shi'ite Muslims.

The Shi'ite sect prevails in Iran, while Kuwait and other Arab countries in the region are predominantly of the Sunni sect with Shi'ite minorities.

Activists among Kuwait's Shi'ite minority have been involved in a spate of terrorist attacks targeted at the country during the eight-year Iraq-Iran war, when the Persian state accused Kuwait of abetting the Iraqi war effort.

Relations between Kuwait and Iran however improved once the war was brought to a halt with the Aug. 20, 1988, ceasefire.

It was not immediately known whether Sheikh, the new board chairman for the society, was Shi'ite or Sunni.

The July 10 blasts at the height of the annual Hajj, or pilgrimage by Muslims from around the world to Islam's holiest shrine at Mecca, killed a Pakistani pilgrim and wounded 16 others.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Expatriates' Club in Baghdad attacked

LONDON (AP) — The Foreign Office Sunday confirmed reports of an attack on an international club in the Iraqi capital Baghdad last week, in which several people were injured. A department spokesman said there were no fatalities in the explosion Wednesday at the British club, an international organisation, but he had few other details. The Financial Times reported that grenades were hurled into a crowd watching a film at the Expatriate Club, injuring 25 people. It said a Polish boy was seriously hurt. The newspaper said it was one of several acts of violence in Baghdad, apparently aimed at foreigners, and that residents of the capital report additional military units mobilised to increase security. It said Kurdish opposition movements and Dawa, a Shi'ite Muslim organisation, were suspected of responsibility.

Libya to provide Sudan with oil, arms

KHARTOUM (AP) — Libya has agreed to provide Sudan with arms and oil, a senior Sudanese government official said Sunday. "Libya will supply Sudan with 250,000 tons of oil till the end of 1989," Brig. Tigani Adam Al Tahir, was quoted by the official Sudan News Agency as saying upon return from a four-day visit to the Libyan capital, Tripoli. Tahir is a member of the 15-man military junta that overthrew the civilian government of Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi on June 30. Agreement has also been reached on military cooperation between the two countries, Tahir said. "Shipment of Libyan military assistance will be arriving in Sudan in the coming few days," he said without elaboration. The two countries were scheduled to sign a trade protocol next February.

Saudi paper: Iron fist awaits saboteurs

RIYADH (R) — A Saudi Arabian newspaper said Monday the government would strike with an iron fist anyone tampering with the Kingdom's security. "The Saudi government is very keen to ensure security for citizens, residents and pilgrims. It will strike with an iron fist anyone tampering with the country's security and holy places," the Jeddah-based Al Bilad said. The paper was commenting on the beheading Thursday of 16 Shi'ite Muslim Kuwaitis convicted of planting bombs in the holy city of Mecca during pilgrimage in July. King Fahd has warned that anyone trying to sabotage the annual pilgrimage would face the death penalty. In an editorial carried by the official Saudi Press Agency, Al Bilad said: "The Kingdom's firm stand has won huge Muslim and popular support, illustrating the extent of the country's adherence to the Islamic Sharia (religious law)." Al Jazira, of Riyadh, said: "Success in arresting the dangerous criminals is a unique victory placing the security authorities in the forefront of similar institutions of the more advanced and experienced states."

Court rejects appeal of lawyer's attacker

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's supreme court Sunday rejected an appeal by a 71-year-old Holocaust survivor jailed for hurling acid into the face of the Israeli lawyer of convicted Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk, army radio said. Yisrael Yehzekieli appealed to the court to lighten his three-year sentence and slash the \$11,000 in compensation he was ordered to pay Yoram Sheftel, the radio said. Sheftel was injured in the eye from the attack. Sheftel represented John Demjanjuk, a 69-year-old Soviet-born Ohio autoworker sentenced to death in April 1988 for his role as a sadistic Nazi guard who operated the gas chambers at the Treblinka death camp in Nazi-occupied Poland during World War II. Demjanjuk maintains he is a victim of mistaken identity and appealed the conviction and sentencing. The appeal is scheduled to be heard before the supreme court in May 1990. The supreme court rejected Yehzekieli's appeal because the attack was premeditated and caused bodily harm.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
17:45 Sea Hunt
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
19:10 Agricultural programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 French film
19:00 News in French
19:15 Douce France
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 Paul Daniel's Magic Show
21:10 Simon & Simon
22:00 News in English
22:20 The Founder of the Baskervilles

PRAYER TIMES

05:04 Fajr
06:31 (Sunrise) Duha
12:27 Dhuhur
15:53 'Asr
18:33 Maghreb
19:50 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweidich Tel. 810740.
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632783, 683326.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terresanta Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811255.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be fair and winds will be westerly moderate freshening at times. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min./max. temp. 15/27
Amman 22/34
Agaba 14/34
Deserts 20/33
Jordan Valley 20/33

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 28, Agaba 34. Humidity readings: Amman 33 per cent, Agaba 51 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Adel Amari 812148
Dr. Munir Qasbi 898101
Dr. Nabil Al Muhaseb 828252
Dr. Hussein Hadad 731267
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778536
Al Asema pharmacy 637053
Nairokhi pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636780
Yaacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsat pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Adel Hatamleh (—)
Al Sharan pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:
Dr. Abdul Latif Sharbini (—)
Khalifah pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 603800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 623101
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdullah Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 771111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 636381
Company 08-53200
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 642416
Alkhalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mallat, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsat 6641714
Shamsat Hospital 660131
University Hospital 843845
Al-Muasher Hospital 66727/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 661646
Al-Ahli, Abdali 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511/26
Army, Marfa 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 60240/90
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983223
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)775555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)72275
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100

AOABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)5220-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
05:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
10:10 Damascus (RJ)
10:10 Jeddah (RJ)
10:10 Agaba (RJ)
10:30 Cairo (RJ)
10:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:35 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
16:45 Montreal, New York (RJ)
17:45 Cairo (RJ)
20:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
20:55 Tripoli (RJ)
20:55 Belgrade, Bucharest (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

11:20 Kuwait (KU)
12:20 Cairo (MS)
12:30 Moscow (SU)
17:25 Riyadh (SV)
17:55 Rome (AZ)
19:00 Dubai (EK)
20:10 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
01:00 London (BA)

18:55 Dubai (AZ)

20:00 Dubai (EK)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg
Apple (golden) 520 / 480
Apple (red) 580 / 530
Banana 480 / 350
Banana (Malaysian) 120 / 90
Beans 320 / 450
Cabbage 170 / 140
Cauliflower 220 / 180
Corn 170 / 140
Cucumbers (large) 200 / 150
Cucumbers (small) 300 / 250
Dates 400 / 350
Eggplant 200 / 160
Fig 400 / 350
Garlic 400 / 350
Gentle 400 / 350
Grapes 280 / 220
Grapes (red) 270 / 220
Guava 350 / 300
Lemon 210 / 170
Mango 110 / 80
Marrow (large) 200 / 150
Marrow (small) 360 / 320
Onion 580 / 540
Onion (dry) 250 / 200
Pepper (hot) 170 / 140
Pepper (sweet) 120 / 140

Jordan, Syria begin talks on oil probe

DAMASCUS (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan and Syria have opened talks aimed at launching bilateral cooperation in oil exploration and energy utilisation through the Syrian Ministry of Minerals and Petroleum and the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) in Jordan.

NRA Director General Kamal Jreizat who arrived in the Syrian capital Sunday evening at the head of a team of experts has been discussing with Syrian officials in charge of petroleum and energy, ways for launching cooperation in oil-related fields.

The talks are expected to culminate in the conclusion of a number of agreements on bilateral cooperation, according to NRA officials.

Jreizat Monday met with Sy-

rian Minister of Minerals and Petroleum Mianus Habib in the presence of the Jordanian team and Syrian officials.

He also met with Dr. Issa Ibrahim, the minister's under-secretary, to have a comprehensive discussion on scopes of bilateral cooperation in mineral resources, exchange of expertise in geological and geophysical matters, efforts to exploit natural resources in both countries and conducting seismic tests to determine the presence of oil.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, discussion also was directed at achieving Syrian-Jordanian integration in mineral resources and at conducting oil exploration operations in Jordan and Syria.

Seminar to discuss Palestinian uprising

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-day seminar is opening in Amman Tuesday to provide further backing to the Palestinian people now involved in an uprising against Israeli occupation.

An announcement said the general secretariat of the Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Supporting the Palestinian People will hold a two-day gathering for representatives of Jordan, Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to come up with means that would help the Palestinians corroborate their self-reliance in social and economic fields, and reduce their dependence on Israel to a minimum.

The announcement said the meeting which will try to formulate a practical and integrated programme that can be applied especially in the course of rural development similar to programmes applied in Egypt and Jordan.

According to the announcement, representatives of a number of Arab, regional and international organisations will attend the meeting.

Tests find raw fat unfit for consumption

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Seventeen out of 19 samples of raw fat collected from the local market were found unfit for human consumption, but it is not yet known to what degree the consumption of these fats would pose dangers to human health, a Ministry of Health official said Monday.

The official, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, said investigations were continuing into the long-term and short-term effects of such fats had on human health.

However, he said, although raw fats could be "contaminated when they are stored in dirty places" it was not necessary that they could be dangerous when consumed. He pointed out that "no-one has yet been reported sick from consuming the fat."

The ministry's investigations are related to the recent bust of a smuggling operation involving transportation of unprocessed fat in sewage trucks. Indications that at least part of the fat had found its way to confectioneries and sweetmeat shops have resulted in the closure of at least 14 commercial establishments and the arrest of 95 people.

Ministry of Supply officials told the Jordan Times Monday they were awaiting results of ministry of health tests on final products involving the fat before determining which of these products should be removed from the market.

"We cannot start removing products from the markets until we are certain that they are contaminated and tests have not yet indicated beyond any shadow of doubt that they are dangerous for human health," said one of the officials, speaking on condition that he not be further identified.

A Health Ministry spokesman quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Monday that "initial results of tests conducted on samples of allegedly contaminated raw fat collected from several Jordanian stores indicate that they are germ-free."

It was not clear Monday evening whether the spokesman's statement and the official's remarks to the Jordan Times referred to the same samples. However, experts noted that "being germ-free does not necessarily mean that the fat is fit for human consumption."

The statement carried by Petra said "the tested raw fat does not conform to the specifications laid down for vegetable oil permissible for human consumption."

The statement said "several" stores and factories had been closed for having used the raw fat in question.

The raw fat affair surfaced and came to the attention of the public after the seizure of five sewage trucks containing the material. The trucks carried signs saying the "raw fat covered by dust."

Despite public clamour for the names of the closed businesses and thus the affected products, officials have pleaded inability to do so until laboratory tests were completed.

Officials who asked not to be identified have said that not all the 14 businesses that have been shut down may be guilty of using the raw fat in question and thus it would be unfair to make public statements about them. "They are innocent until proven guilty," added one official.

Meanwhile food companies and restaurants continue to publish ads in newspapers assuring their customers of their uncontaminated food products and Jordanian mothers are desperately trying to find substitute snacks for their children, many of whom depended on such products for their breakfast or lunch.

VOTER CARDS: The Ministry of Interior said Monday that it would start distributing voting cards to voters around the Kingdom in the next two days. The ministry said that personal photographs should be attached to the cards to serve as identification documents at the polling stations.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ An Indian photographic exhibition — "Jawahar Lal Nehru, His Life and Times" — at the Students Activities Complex, University of Jordan.

★ A photo exhibition by French artist Jean-Noel de Soye displaying photos projecting fashion accessories such as jewelry, caps, scarfs and belts, at the French Cultural Centre (the exhibition also displays slides on the history of fashion).

FILMS

★ A German film entitled "Der Snob", English subtitled, at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.

★ A documentary on "Trumpet Kings" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

Schools begin 2-day weekend

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Education Adnan Badran Monday officially announced a total of 3,600 schools in Jordan will from now on have a two-day weekend Thursdays and Fridays, and said that the new measures will go into force as of Oct. 1, 1989.

To make up for the loss of one day, the school days running from Saturday through Wednesday will each be extended by 45 minutes, the minister said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Badran said that the measure will be applied only to those schools with one shift, thus leaving some 150 two-shift schools to follow the previous arrangement of a six-day school week.

All kindergarten schools, and private schools which had been doing a five day school week will not be affected by the new arrangement and can continue to follow their own procedures, the minister said.

In announcing the arrangements, Badran noted that the decision was based on a detailed study and surveys conducted by Ministry of Education teams who interviewed school teachers and students as well as ordinary citizens.

The decision is in imple-



Adnan Badran

mentation of article 40 of the Jordanian Education Law which authorises the Ministry to decide on the number of days for holidays and the weekends for schools in Jordan, provided that one shift schools should have 215 to 220 days of classes every scholastic year, while those with a two-day week holiday will have 185 to 190 days of classes.

According to Badran, the new arrangement will open the way for both teachers and students to conduct more research work and study and will allow the students to have more time in revising their lessons and exercising their hobbies.

He said that the new arrangement will allow the teachers to deal with family problems and personal business

on Thursday's so that the rest of the week will be wholly dedicated to teaching.

The minister said that Thursdays will allow students to carry out extra curricular activity such as planting trees, carrying out sports and social activities and going on school trips.

In addition, he said, Thursdays will be used by teachers for study for higher qualifications in implementation of the 1987 national educational conference resolutions.

Thursdays will also allow the Ministry of Education to arrange for maintenance work at schools and surrounding gardens and playgrounds, the minister added.

Badran said the two days of holiday a week will allow more time for recreation and for social gatherings among families and for touring various places of interest in the country.

He said that an extra day holiday will bolster family ties and increase visits that would help strengthen relations within the Jordanian society.

Badran said that the two-day weekend is being applied in many countries including Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Oman, in addition to Jordan universities and private schools in the Kingdom.

17,000 families in Jordan live below the poverty line

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Social Development Monday announced the completion of a detailed study on pockets of poverty in the Kingdom which, it said, was conducted with the help of teams of university researchers and other specialists.

The study was in conformity with the government's policy to help assist the poor and needy families in the country, and was conducted in view of the numerous socio-economic developments at the local, regional and international levels, the ministry's Secretary General, Mohammad Sqour, said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Sqour said that the adverse effects of these developments began to be felt in Jordan in 1984 with a sharp increase in unemployment, a decline in job opportunities, or continued high population growth and other phenomena that deepened differences among social groups in the Kingdom.

Despite the existence of government and non-government agencies which have been providing financial and in-kind assistance to the needy families in the country, the ministry's study which was conducted over the past two years, projected unresolvable difficulties, Sqour said.



Mohammad Sqour

He said that the existing charitable and humanitarian institutions lack the sufficient funds and other potentials to deal with the poverty problem in an appropriate and drastic manner.

The study, he said, was conducted in line with the Kingdom's 1986-1990 socio-economic development plan to help planners and policy-makers decide on proper programmes for development and to deal with the poverty problem in Jordan.

According to Sqour the study covered four main areas and provided statistical data compiled through studies and research work by experts in economy, statistics, planning, social development and labour.

He said that the study gives ample details on the housing, clothing, food, education, transport and health services required for every family to live at a decent level in addition to monthly income to remain above the poverty line.

The study, Sqour added, gives details about the volume of local and foreign agencies involved in providing assistance and services to poor groups, their geographical distributions in the Kingdom and the nature of work they conduct, as well as sources that finance their operations.

Sqour said that a total of 17,000 poor families were covered by the survey and the researchers divided the group in three categories, each according to a level of poverty criteria.

The study proposes measures to be conducted in the course of eliminating pockets of poverty in degrees, gives details on the volume of unemployment, ideas about family incomes and other data.

The Department of Statistics was involved in the two-year survey which cost JD 70,000.

In 1982 the Jordan Times published a study which indicated that 30 per cent of the total population of Jordan lived below the relative poverty line.

Soviet leader praises Jordan's development

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture in the Soviet Autonomous Republic of Chechen, Abdullah Kandaroff has praised Jordan's cultural and construction development.

In a press conference he gave Monday, Kandaroff said that his visit to Jordan is designed to bolster cultural relations.

He added that his meeting with

Minister of Culture and Information Nassouh Al Majali dealt with means to develop cultural and trade relations.

The discussions also dealt with the chances to exchange experts in the fields of education, sports, and environment protection, as well as setting up museums, encouraging tourism between the two countries

He also welcomed Jordanian folkloric troupes to the Republic of Chechen to introduce the Chechen people of the Soviet Union to the Jordanian heritage and culture.

The director of the accompanying Chechen folkloric troupe expressed appreciation for the support the troupe received from the Jordanian public.

Jordan attends camp for young Red Cross, Red Crescent recruits

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan was among 132 countries that took part in an international camp by young recruits working for Red Cross and Red Crescent associations around the world.

The camp, which was held in Geneva, involved a variety of activities including discussion of working papers on the international humanitarian law, the role of the Red Crescent and Red Cross societies in promoting the

law, and topics concerning Red Cross' humanitarian activities, such as blood transfusion operations, first aid, relief work, voluntary service and other related fields, according to Riham Al Ajam who led the Jordanian delegation to the two-week camp.

The camp participants sent cables to the United Nations, urging the world community to help end all forms of violence and

the establishment of equality among nations based on mutual respect and human dignity, Ajam noted.

The Arab delegations, she said, held separate meetings in which they underlined the need for intensifying efforts on the part of Arab governments to promote the work of Red Crescent and Red Cross operations through seminars, conference and training courses.

Health Ministry seals springs supplying water to Karameh

AMMAN (J.T.) — Springs supplying the Jordan Valley town of Karameh with drinking water have been sealed upon orders from the Health Ministry after the water was found unfit for human consumption, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily.

The report said that the Al Nagra springs used to serve as the main source of water supply for Karameh's residents, and that efforts are being made now to find an alternative source.

The springs and the adjoining well were closed following a detailed report that appeared in the Arabic daily which said several people and suffered kidney ailments and a citizen had died after

drinking contaminated water from these springs.

Preliminary tests conducted on water samples taken from the springs proved to be fit for consumption but the water was coloured all the time and had a bad taste, the paper reported.

The Karameh inhabitants had reported the presence of sediments of stone, sand and metal in the water pumped to their homes, and complained that the water meters had been blocked by these sediments and that farm animals had suffered ailments as a result of drinking the polluted water.

In its report, Al Ra'i said that samples from the spring were sent for tests at the University of Jordan laboratory which proved

them to be unfit even for irrigation.

According to the Al Ra'i report, the situation seemed to have aggravated recently although complaints had been raised earlier and protests were sent to the Ministry of Health and the Water Authority.

The daily quoted local citizens as noticing increasing amounts of the sediments and more colouring in the water in the last few months, thus prompting the Health Ministry to interfere and put an end to the misery.

But, the paper said, efforts are still underway to find an alternative source of water supply for Karameh.



The opening session of a meeting in Amman Monday on recognition of educational certificates issued in the Arab World (Petra photo)

Regional meeting opens on equivalence of degrees awarded in Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — Recognition of certificates and the equivalence of degrees awarded by Arab universities is the theme of a four-day seminar which opened in Amman Monday with the participation of 24 educationists and officials from the Arab World.

as awarded by institutes of higher education in the Arab World.

UNESCO office director Mohammad Kazem addressed the opening session stating that six agreements have been concluded around the world on the equivalence of degrees and that the agreements among Arab countries complete the set.

"These agreements are only tools for the implementation of principles and achieving the goals of UNESCO in cooperation with the national governments worldwide," Kazem noted.

According to UNESCO officials cooperation between UNESCO and the Association of Arab Universities, other regional organisations and the Arab League will be on the agenda.

Issues related to international agreements on the accreditation of degrees and the equivalence of certificates will also be studied, the officials added.

Officials from the Ministry of Higher Education attended the opening session.

The meeting, organised by the Amman-based regional office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), will discuss reports on the organisation's activities in the course of helping countries in the Arab region to apply earlier agreements on the equivalence of degrees and certificates, and will follow up the implementation of resolutions and recommendations in this respect, according to a UNESCO official in Amman.

Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad opened the meetings with an address in which he stressed that the equivalence of certificates is part of an overall attempt to streamline and organise cooperation among Arab states, and reflects the determination by various universities to try to attain equal levels in the same specialisations, especially among those adopting the credit-hour system.

The minister noted that the past two decades were marked with an increasing trend among Arab universities to attain the highest level of cooperation and to attain the highest level of knowledge and educational techniques.

So far a total of 12 Arab countries have recognised and approved agreements on the equivalence of certificates and degrees, and it is important for all Arab states to join in the common effort, the minister said.

He said special legislations and laws will have to be enacted and special criteria adopted in this respect to help unify all systems and regulations on the equivalence and recognition of degrees

HELP TO MUNICIPALITY: The Amman Chamber of Commerce has donated JD 10,000 to Greater Amman Municipality to help it finance some of its projects. A cheque for the sum was handed to Greater Amman Mayor Ali Suheimat at a meeting Monday.

ILO team to arrive for talks in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — An International Labour Organisation (ILO) team is due here Friday for talks with Labour Ministry officials on means of dealing with the problem of unemployment in the Kingdom and other topics.

A statement said that Minister of Labour Jamal Bedour met here Monday with Mr. Shukri Dahani, director of the ILO regional office in Amman, to prepare for the talks with the ILO team in the coming week, and to prepare a list of the topics to be taken up for discussion.

The statement said the ILO team will try to help the ministry find appropriate solutions for unemployment in Jordan.

Bedour said in a statement here Sunday that at least nine per cent of the total Jordanian workforce was now jobless and that 44,000 non-Jordanians are assuming jobs that could easily be taken over by Jordanian job seekers who include 20,000 school graduates.

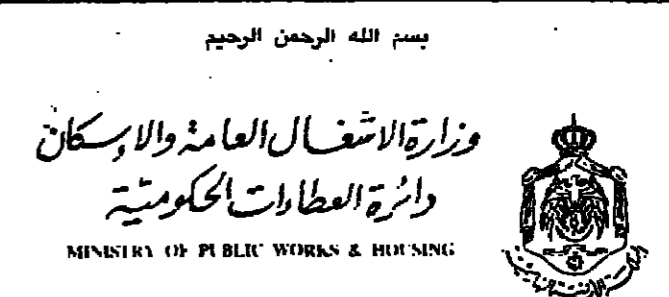
The minister made the statement at the opening of a seminar for a group of Labour Ministry inspectors charged with ensuring that the ministry laws are implemented at all factories and various other businesses employing non-Jordanian workers.

Qatanani receives YMCA team

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-member delegation representing the World Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) had a meeting here Monday with a senior official from the Foreign Ministry and heard a brief on the general situation of the Palestinian refugees living in camps in Jordan.

The director of the ministry's Palestine Affairs Department Dr. Ahmad Qatanani spoke of the displacement of Palestinian people in the 1948 and the 1967 wars, and about refugee conditions in general.

Qatanani outlined the Jordanian government's services to the refugees in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).



THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HOUSING
GOVERNMENT TENDERS
DIRECTORATE
EXPANSION OF ZARQA SEWAGE PUMPING STATION INVITATION FOR TENDER NO. 70/89/CENTRAL

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the European Investment Bank towards the cost of the Zarqa Wastewater I project and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to eligible payments under the Contract for which this invitation to tender is issued.

The Water Authority of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation through the Government Tenders Directorate invites experienced firms of Contractors from member states of the European Communities, Switzerland, Austria, Japan or United States of America and Contractors in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, who have been qualified as First Class Electrical and Mechanical Contractors by the Ministry of Public Works and Housing of Jordan, to submit bids for the project for the Expansion of the Zarqa Pumping Station. Foreign contractors are strongly encouraged to associate with such local contractors.

All commodities imported for this project shall have their source and origin in Member States of the European Communities or in Switzerland, Austria, Japan or the United States of America.

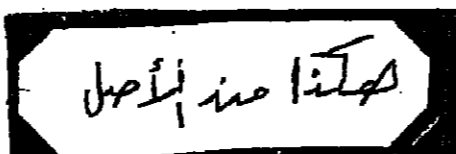
The Contract for the expansion of the existing Zarqa Sewage Pumping Station consists of the supply, installation, testing, commissioning and maintenance for two years of the following: two main sewage pumping units each with a capacity of 972 cubic meters per hour, additional generating capacity; additional piping and electrical and control equipment; and the supply of spare parts for the new and existing equipment.

On or before October 18th, 1989 each contractor shall submit in person or by mail qualifying information about the firm or joint venture showing their overall experience and, specifically, their ability to supply, install, test and commission main sewage pumping units, generators, and accessories of the size and type required for this project. The information will be evaluated and the contractor will be informed by October 31st, 1989 whether or not to submit a bid.

A prebid conference will be held on October 18th, 1989 at 0900 hours, Jordan local time, at the office of the Water Authority in Amman. Site visit will be arranged on the following day(s). The tenders are due not later than 1230, Jordan local time, on Saturday November 15th, 1989 at the Government Tenders Directorate, Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

Tenders Documents may be examined and purchased by any eligible bidder on submission of a written application to the Tenders Division of the Water Authority, P.O. Box 2412, Amman, Jordan Telex 22439 WAJ JO, Fax 679143, and the payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 300.

Chairman of the Central Tenders Committee
Director/Government Tenders Directorate



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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DR. RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:

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Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
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African cooperative programme relies on self-help

By Mort Rosenblum
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — From his village in Burkina Faso, Bernard Ouédraogo shepherds 6,000 self-help cooperatives in nine countries, touching the lives of 5 million West Africans. And the numbers are growing fast.

"We have a few islets of success," he said with a diffident chuckle after receiving the hunger project's 1989 Africa prize on Sept. 14 along with Botswana President Quetsi Masire.

Ouédraogo's group is called "Six-S," an abbreviation of its full title in French, which means "using the dry season in the savannah and the sabbat" ("se servir de la saison sèche en savane et au sabbat"). It operates in Burkina Faso, Chad, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo.

Simply put, the group's principles are the opposite of foreign-aid programme and government plans that have wasted billions of dollars in Africa since 1960.

Peasant groups, known as Naams, combine forces and ideas, following a proverb of Ouédraogo's Mossi people: if ants get together, they can carry an elephant.

"Everything rises from grass roots to fit our needs and our psychology," he explained. "If we must use outside technology, we reject the foreign values which come with it."

During the eight-month dry season, farmers weave wire netting for dams; shape fuel-efficient stoves and better plows; dig canals; build clinics and schools; and test new ideas.

It works, he said, because peasants rely on themselves and their traditional cultures. Modest

outside aid, donated privately without strings, is managed locally at no loss in dignity.

What's more, he added, experience in Asia and Latin America shows that it works anywhere that old values and family ties remain intact, forming a basis for voluntary labour toward shared goals.

The trick is to blend tradition with limited technology.

"Some old ways must change," Ouédraogo said. "We accept anything new that suits our needs, but we don't want cultural assumptions to come with it. Development should not destroy."

Ouédraogo, 59, was born in the Yatenga region of the French colony that became Upper Volta, then Burkina Faso, at the centre of West Africa.

As a rural education officer, he watched the desert move inexor-

ably southward from the Sahara, in mottled patches. He saw that only combined efforts by enlightened farmers could stop it.

He looked at land use in the U.S. states of Arkansas and Georgia and studied rural development at the Sorbonne in Paris, where he received a doctorate in social sciences. Then he returned home to organise Naams.

Travelling around, he discovered that societies all over Africa, and far beyond, had similar village units. Six-S set about linking them to spread ideas, research findings and resources.

With each new breakthrough, Ouédraogo found, Six-S volunteers had to repeat the laborious but inevitable process of winning over village leaders.

"If you just announce something, do publicity in the Western

way, it is immediately suspect," he explained. "You have to do something quietly, successfully. Then people come along."

Ouédraogo wakes each morning at 3 a.m. for four hours of reading and writing before going to his tiny office.

He runs Six-S with two secretaries and a driver, along with representatives in Senegal and Mali. When the rains come, everyone goes back to the fields.

A lot of Ouédraogo's time is spent indoors, either working with enthusiastic authorities or persuading suspicious officials that organised peasants are no threat to established order.

"Our only political ideology is to be flexible and work according to the systems in place," he said, declining to point a finger at governments which have stymied self-help projects.

Ouédraogo's devotees include

Pierre Pradervand, a Swiss development expert widely respected in Africa, who flew to New York to translate for his friend at the award ceremony.

Pradervand's new book, to be published in the United States as "Listening to Africa," details how Naams have grown food and restored land where outsiders' major projects failed.

"We in the West must realise how valuable this work is and help it flourish," he said. "Grass roots can't grow beyond a certain level without changes in political structure."

As Ouédraogo beamed assent, Pradervand concluded:

"We've got to do things like stopping our banks from hiding dictators' money and our industries from flooding Africa with pesticides. We don't need to go out and dig wells. Africans can do that."

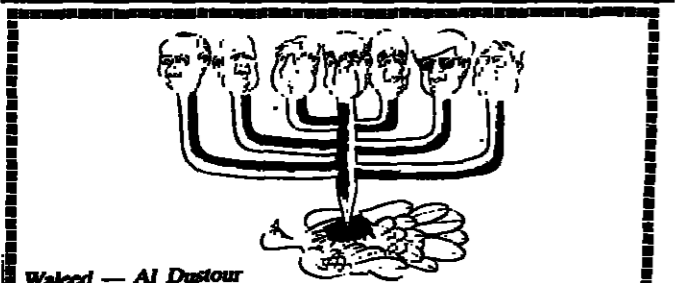
Boost to Gorbachev

THE AGREEMENT to hold a superpower summit between U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev sometime next year comes as added evidence that Washington views with favour the success of Gorbachev's reform policies at home and abroad. When taken in conjunction with the reports that the two superpowers have succeeded in removing remaining obstacles in the path of disarmament in nuclear, chemical and conventional weapon systems, the 1990 Gorbachev-Bush summit will further boost the efforts of the Soviet leader to reform his country politically and economically.

This American-Soviet gesture could not have come at a more critical time when Gorbachev's perestroika and glasnost policies are under severe attacks from conservative forces everywhere. There has been a constant fear of late that President Gorbachev may not survive the stresses and strains being imposed on his bold ideas by traditional elements who have developed vested interest in the status quo in the Soviet Union and its allies. But this has always been the case whenever a reformation era begins anywhere.

Still, the impending summit between the Soviet and American leaders must produce tangible results in order for President Gorbachev to channel his country's resources to non-military objectives. The biggest strain on the Soviet economy has been its attempt to catch up with the American military might. Once these resources are freed from the military demands and rechannelled to build up the economy of the Soviet Union on modern basis, the Soviet experiments with perestroika and glasnost would be given a real chance to nurture and develop.

Over and above these salient considerations, a successful summit between the two leaders would diminish a great deal the threat of a global nuclear war, whether accidental or intentional. The immense value of reducing the threat of mass destructive wars is limitless worldwide. And with the cooperation of the superpowers, the threat of regional nuclear militarisation would likewise recede. Thus the snowball effect of denuclearisation of the world will have infinite economic and social consequences to mankind everywhere not to mention the political relaxation that can be expected to ensue. Accordingly the whole world and the entire human race have a vested interest in holding the Bush-Gorbachev summit and ensuring its success.



Waleed — Al Dustour

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i on Monday tackled the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) meeting opening in Sanaa on Tuesday, and said that the heads of the four countries carry the dreams of the Arab Nation towards solidarity and unity. The proclamation of the ACC in Baghdad last February has placed on the four countries and their leaders the responsibility of merging their potentials in the course of enabling the Arab Nation to achieve its long aspired unity, the paper noted. It said that as the heads of state meet in Sanaa the hopes of millions of Arabs increase because such meetings have been successful in the past in taking the four countries steps toward integration, serving the objectives of the Arab masses. King Hussein and the heads of the three countries Iraq, North Yemen and Egypt will now chart further plans for unity among their countries and coordinate steps aimed at development in all fields, said the paper. Let us hope, said the paper, that the four leaders will come up with strong plans to help their peoples face and counter all challenges and repel all dangers, and at the same time pave the way towards unity.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily recalls a statement by the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat who said that the 1973 October war would be the last in the Middle East. Mahmood Rimawi says that nothing could be further from the truth and the realities in the Middle East region in view of Israel's continued occupation of Palestinian lands and its ongoing repression against the Arab people under its rule. The writer says that Israeli threat to the whole Arab Nation still stands, the Palestinians are still involved in an uprising for freedom and the Arab countries have no acquired sophisticated weapons and seem determined to confront their common enemy. The writer says that one should remember the October war and the Sadat statement on the eve of the Ramadan war's anniversary next month and one should remember the Palestinians who are still at war with their enemy that continues to occupy their land. The writer points out that Egypt, which has been accepted into the Arab fold once again, has resumed its national role and has been joining Arab countries in dealing with the Palestine question and in joint actions aimed at bolstering Arab economy. He says these and other indications point to the fact that the Arab-Israeli conflict is as alive as ever and the common enemy should not be left to corroborate its gains as a result of its occupation of Arab land.

Sawt Al Shaab daily newspaper refers to the scandal of the contaminated oil tonnes of which have been seized by the authorities which closed down several stores and factories. It is regrettable and painful to see such events taking place in our country which had served as an example for other nations in terms of integrity and honesty in trade dealings and in attempts to maintain good reputation, the paper noted. The paper paid tribute to the security men and the customs officials who have revealed this dangerous action and opened the people's eyes to such criminal role to which some elements in Jordan might resort to make quick and illegitimate profits. The paper urged members of the public to cooperate with the government and the concerned authorities by all available means.

De Klerk brings in new political style

By David Crary
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Comparisons with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and perestroika may be premature, but President F.W. de Klerk has brought a new style and new possibilities to South African politics.

An array of obstacles stands in the way of his professed goals of peace, justice and black-white power-sharing. Yet the fact that he states these goals, repeatedly and earnestly, sets him apart from the men who preceded him in power.

Prominent black opponents of his government are deeply sceptical, and they may be proved right. Some of them concede, however, that the government for the first time has adopted a rhetoric — if not yet a policy — that reflects some of their own hopes. "His vision of a new South Africa is the vision we want," said Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, winner of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize and one of the government's most persistent critics.

So sweeping are some of de Klerk's statements — no more white domination, a phasing-out of racial discrimination — that he may find he has raised expectations he cannot meet. He acknowledged this in his inaugural speech on Sept. 20, saying he would not accept responsibility for "overenthusiastic or twisted versions" of his policy.

He will be under heavy pressure to move quickly, with anti-apartheid leaders and Western governments saying they want decisive steps taken within the next several months. Among the moves de Klerk is likely to consider:

— Releasing Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and other jailed leaders of the African National Congress guerrilla movement. De Klerk knows that a broad range of black leaders will refuse to negotiate on a new constitution unless Mandela goes free. He is likely to approve Mandela's release despite fears in some government quarters that it could spark a wave of unrest.

— Modifying or repealing the remaining legislative cornerstones of apartheid, the laws that classify South Africans by race, allow municipalities to segregate public facilities, and establish segregated residential districts.

"The continued removal of discrimination is an important objective," de Klerk said in his inaugural speech. But he has yet to renounce his support for segregated schools and neighbourhoods.

— Lifting the state of emergency, which has been in effect since June 1986. De Klerk says he hopes to "create a climate" in which the emergency can be ended, and he already has negotiated some of the impact by ordering police to allow peaceful mass protest marches to take place.

But police still detain activists without charging them. Gavin Reilly, chairman of South Africa's largest conglomerate and a frequent critic of apartheid, has urged the international community to give de Klerk a chance to carry out his programme without imposing a timetable or threatening further sanctions.

"Just as Mikhail Gorbachev has found that perestroika cannot be achieved in the twinkling of an eye, and that serious attitudinal and institutional obstacles have to be confronted and gradually overcome, so Mr. de Klerk will have to confront difficulties of the same order," said Reilly, chairman of the Anglo American Corp.

The Weekly Mail, an anti-apartheid newspaper in Johannesburg, also likened de Klerk to Gorbachev, saying both leaders

were learning that the process of reform "is not to direct change, but to ease controls and wait for the unknowable to happen."

For de Klerk, this syndrome is most evident in his decision two weeks ago, while acting president, to allow mass protest marches. Tens of thousands of people of all races have joined anti-government parades in major cities, including militants displaying banners of the African National Congress.

"Like Gorbachev, de Klerk has a security establishment who prefer the old way of doing things," said the weekly Mail. "Perhaps the biggest question is whether de Klerk shares Gorbachev's resolve and will to outmanoeuvre the 'securocrats'."

The centerpiece of de Klerk's programme is a vague proposal to negotiate a new constitution that would extend political rights to the country's 28 million blacks while protecting the 5 million whites from black domination.

In effect, de Klerk is suggesting that each racial group would have veto power over major policy decisions, with deadlocks to be broken by some sort of independent arbitrator.

It is highly unlikely that even moderate black leaders, let alone the ANC, would accept an outcome that falls so far short of a one-person, one-vote system.

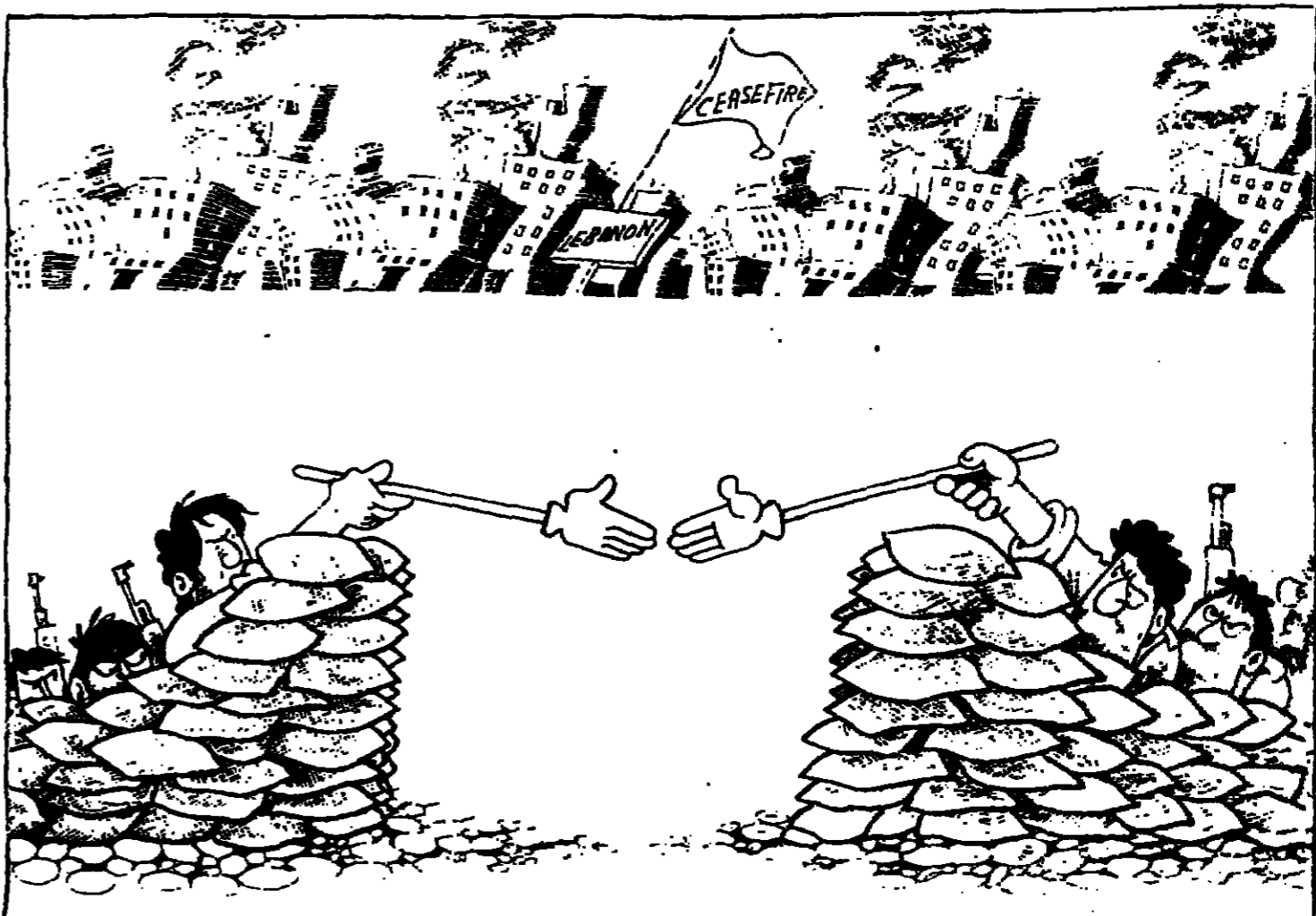
But blacks might be willing to sit down and talk if de Klerk takes the preliminary steps they have demanded — freeing Mandela, legalising the ANC, lifting the state of emergency and restrictions on political activity.

The most powerful black moderate, Zulu leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, said he believes that de Klerk intends to move forward.

He called on blacks to "move away from the weak position of revolution and internal violence, which can never bring victory for democracy, and move toward the politics of negotiation."

An indication of the flux in South Africa came last week in an editorial in the Kenya Times, a newspaper published by Kenya's ruling party that customarily depicts the white government in Pretoria as evil and racist.

"Something is happening in South Africa which is very reminiscent of glasnost," the newspaper said, referring to the Soviet policy of openness.



Aoun takes olive branch

By Peter Smerdon
Reuters

BEIRUT — General Michel Aoun, Lebanon's Christian army chief, has accepted the proffered olive branch of peace but his eyes are still firmly fixed on a vision of a country freed of foreign forces.

The "war of liberation" was General Aoun. And it still is Aoun, said a diplomat in Beirut. "The Arab League gave him a way out of the battle for a time with at least his dignity intact." Aoun agreed to the league's peace plan on Friday because he believed assurances given by its envoy, Lakhdar Brahimi, and foreign leaders, sources close to the 53-year-old general said.

"He believes them when they say they want a withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon," said one source.

"He was impressed by Brahimi and appeals from abroad. But he knows that although he took the olive branch he still has the gun in

the other hand." Lebanese analysts said Aoun, increasingly isolated in the world, was left with few options other than to give peace a chance by accepting the Arab plan and its proposals to increase Muslim power in the Christian-biased political system.

A gunner who says he is more than ever convinced that he can save Lebanon, Aoun launched his "war of liberation" against the Syrian army on March 14 with his heaviest artillery — leaving him with no military means of escalating the fight.

Outgunned, outflanked and outmaneuvered, he switched to diplomacy by improving ties with Iraq, Syria's main Arab foe, and trying to win international support for his battle to expel the Syrian army.

But he failed to internationalise the war by drawing in the West against Damascus, Moscow's closest Arab ally.

A history of fruitless foreign interventions since the civil war began in 1975 meant that even the French, traditionally the closest Western power to Lebanon's Christians, were wary of becoming involved.

After initially trying to win over the U.N. Security Council, France decided to concentrate on humanitarian aid and joined Washington and other powers in calling for an Arab solution.

Aoun's trust in the United States was misplaced. Washington has in no mood to abandon its new-found understanding of Syria's demand for a special relationship with Lebanon, which could be the back door to Damascus for an Israeli invading force.

Aoun also failed to realise that Lebanon had not forgiven him for joining Christian hardliners in blocking the election of a joint Syrian-American candidate as president a year ago.

The general and his supporters

finally decided to step up pressure on Washington. But they were surprised when the United States evacuated its embassy in East Beirut on Sept. 6, citing what it said were Aoun's threats against Americans.

The balance book of the "war of liberation" makes sad reading. Six months of artillery bombardments were at times so savage that Aoun seemed close to his threat of allowing Beirut to be flattened if this was necessary to drive out the Syrians.

It cost at least 838 dead, 3,400 wounded, an exodus of more than half Beirut's 1.5 million people and damage estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars.

"Aoun has changed since the war began," the diplomat said. "He is a sadder and more bitter man. But at the same time he will never stop because the harder the situation is, the more he becomes convinced that he is right and others are wrong."

Civil disobedience gets new lease in South Africa

By Rich Mkhondo
Reuters

JOHANNESBURG — Non-violent civil disobedience is enjoying a renaissance in South Africa, where Mahatma Gandhi fashioned his methods of peaceful resistance.

And although South Africa's white-led government has apparently decided to adopt an easier attitude towards anti-apartheid dissent, the civil rights movement shows no sign of relaxing its policy of peacefully breaking laws.

Black protesters have demanded treatment at whites-only hospitals and restricted activists have risked imprisonment by appearing to speak at political rallies.

Protesters have picketed at beaches reserved for whites, and pupils have marched to whites-only schools demanding that they be opened to all races.

The Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) has also targeted other segregated facilities such as buses, parks and swimming pools.

"Such campaigns are important components of our struggle. They are a demonstration that people are prepared to fight," said Mur-

phy Morobe, leader of the MDM, a dissident coalition that launched a defiance campaign in August against apartheid and the exclusion of the black majority from elections won by the white National Party this month.

"We can no longer let apartheid ruin our lives, nor accept segregation and racial division," Morobe told Reuters.

"The present defiance campaign has been caused partly by the repression of emergency rule and the high-handedness (with) which the government deals with discontent and dissent," said Robert Schrire, a Cape Town political scientist.

"It helps to highlight the desperate situation South Africa finds itself in to solve the political logjam," he added.

Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee said in a statement that the government, while respecting the right of peaceful protest, must always uphold law and order.

"The right to hold meetings is therefore not unlimited. It must take into account the laws of the land, including the right of other persons to safety, physical integrity and free movement," he said.

President F.W. de Klerk, con-

firmed as head of state after the poll, has tacitly given the go-ahead for mass marches and black political funerals which earlier would have been banned by the authorities.

Dissidents dismiss this apparent change, saying the detention of activists continues unabated and that de Klerk's vague reform plans to give blacks some political power are insufficient for them to abandon their campaign.

Non-violent resistance in South Africa goes back to the days when Gandhi, working as a young lawyer in Natal province, developed a policy of civil disobedience which would later succeed in the struggle to end British rule in his native India.

Gandhi spearheaded campaign in South Africa between 1906 and 1914 against a decree that ethnic Indians should be fingerprinted and carry registration certificates at all times.

His campaign ended inconclusively, and the next milestone came in 1952 when the African National Congress (ANC) nationalist group launched the defiance of unjust laws campaign.

Nearly 8,500 volunteers were arrested as protesters led by Nelson Mandela deliberately broke

apartheid laws, usually by occupying premises or facilities reserved for another race.

"The 1952 defiance campaign managed to involve people even in the rural and farm areas... that allowed the democratic movement to grow even stronger," said campaign veteran Nkomo Motlana, now a community leader in Soweto black township.

He said the protest transformed the ANC, nowadays the main group fighting white rule from exile in Zambia, into a mass organisation which forged links between anti-apartheid groups.

The campaign was halted in 1953 after the outbreak of violence in Eastern Cape province and the government's introduction of a law which made it a heavily punishable offence to stage such protests.

With the exception of a disastrous demonstration in 1960 against a law which made the carrying of pass books compulsory for blacks, non-violent civil disobedience was brought to a standstill until this year.

The 1960 campaign ended in a bloodbath when police shot dead 69 protesters who left their pass books at home and presented

themselves with thousands of others for arrest at a police station in Sharpeville, south of Johannesburg.

Mandela was jailed for life in 1964 for plotting to overthrow white rule.

Dracoonian laws against public assembly, culminating in 1986 with a state of emergency, and the banning of anti-apartheid groups and activists, have since nipped protest in the bud.

Many observers believe the present MDM defiance campaign has reached its goal of highlighting what many see as the futility of an election or apartheid reforms which exclude the black majority.

"Foreign governments are reacting more to the molested leaders than to the elected government. Foreign policy is shaped by the sit-ins, the swim-ins, the marches and the demonstrations," the influential Business Day newspaper said.

Even when de Klerk launched a pre-election drive to meet several black African leaders, his trips and discussions were overshadowed by reports of Cape Town police turning water cannons filled with purple dye on defiant protesters.



This suck-and-blow telephone dialing system was developed for motoric handicapped in the Federal Republic of Germany. Zero to nine are shown on the dial. By blowing through the mouthpiece it is possible to move to the next digit. The desired number is then programmed by sucking in briefly. The mouthpiece controls all the required functions for telephoning.

Actions and aids from industry

Geared to the handicapped

FRANKFURT/MAIN.— The "Frankfurt Model" by means of which disabled passengers using public transportation can call a taxi via the driver is to be extended to other German cities. The Association for the Blind, the initiator of the Frankfurt taxi action appealed to public transportation systems throughout the Federal Republic of Germany to provide this service for everyone. Since November 1988, blind people in the Frankfurt area have been able to call for a taxi to pick them up from the tram or bus stop at which they have to get off. After this service in conjunction with urban transportation systems and the taxi headquarters turned out to be such a success, all users of public transport can now order taxis in this fashion.

The "Integra '89" in the South German city of Augsburg also presented new technical aid for the handicapped. The trade fair was first and foremost of great interest for young persons with multiple handicaps, who require work places with special equipment. Vocational rehabilitation is of enormous importance for the integration of the handicapped in society. In Bavaria alone, there are more than 16,000 jobs in workshops for the disabled and some 2,500 training places in special facilities for professional training. The exhibition in Augsburg which was also attended by a large number of foreign visitors displayed the latest techniques and practical aids provided by industry. — IN Press.

'Stephanie': Essence of a princess

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The sweet smell of excess surrounds Princess Stephanie of Monaco. Now she has put the essence of herself into a bottle. "Stephanie" the fragrance goes on sale in France next month.

"I've done this fragrance with my whole heart," said Stephanie Monday, holding court at the Ritz hotel surrounded by perfumers and "noises." "I love my fragrance like I love my records. My perfume is myself."

The real Stephanie has always been difficult to spot behind the raunchy rock star in black leather, the statuesque model promoting her swimsuit line and the occasional dutiful do-gooder in Monaco.

Today, Prince Rainier's wild child is doing her best to be businesslike, in a power-shouldered anthracite-gray Yves Saint Laurent suit. A vast poster behind her shows the princess at her most strikingly androgynous — slicked hair, square jaw, little black dress plunging to the waist with the fragrance poised before her cleavage.

The promotional film, by contrast, has Stephanie at work nosing out the fragrances and choosing the bottle with its ribbed glass drapes. ("You can see from the Pool Position swimwear line that I like drapes," she says.)

So the perfume is sexy? "Young, sensual, elegant and sexy," says Stephanie.

A spicy, exotic aroma rises above the flowers. "It's even a bit Oriental," explains the "nose" Jacques Polge, who worked for two years to capture the essence of a princess.

"Mediterranean people are warm," says Stephanie, whose recent appearances in tabloid newspapers have been pretty hot stuff. "It is true of all the sunshine places. Even in Los Angeles, the people are different from those who live in Chicago, where it's cold."

The princess now lives in California, spending "half my life" on airplanes. She talks in a little-girl voice, grinning at the attendant paparazzi, an innocent silver bracelet on one arm, one ear studied with a sophisticated diamond heart and two satellite stones.

The fragrance is made by Bourjois, France's brand leader in cosmetics and a company linked with Chanel perfumes. Internationally, its best known fragrance is the mass-market Soir de Paris. Stephanie, offered in three different sizes of eau de parfum, sells from 106 to 173 francs (about \$16



Stephanie the princess

to \$26). These are not royal prices and the distribution will also be in regular stores, rather than exclusive outlets. A launch in the United States next year is currently being considered.

"The market for designer fragrances is saturated," says Antoine Housset, director of Bourjois. "We knew that Princess Stephanie used Bourjois cosmetics, and we took our courage in both hands and approached her. We wanted a fragrance that was young and accessible for the 1990s. If you look at the youth market for perfume, you see that they are all appealing to the romantic side, and we wanted something stronger."

In a market where models command million-dollar salaries for putting their faces to a product, does Princess Stephanie have an important contract? That remains a right royal secret.

Mothers, falafel makers and the Jordanian economy

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

IF EVER a conference and its published proceedings could be termed "timely," this is it. This compact but fact-filled book is a compilation of the proceedings of a conference held in Amman in July 1988, co-sponsored by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation of West Germany and Jordan's Royal Scientific Society.

Ah, yes, the good old days of July 1988 — a very long time ago, but all the more reason to read and consider the papers in this book.

July 1988, you will recall, was just before the Jordanian economy stood on its head for a moment and tried its hand at mass hysteria. In retrospect, therefore, the case studies, comments and recommendations in this book take us back to a moment when thoughtful and experienced grown men calmly discussed the obstacles, challenges and opportunities before the industrial sector in Jordan.

Such discussions have probably taken place in Jordan for a very long time. No doubt, when local Stone Age man hammered the first chunk of flint into a crude cutting knife which was used to make stone beads, these manufactured commodities in turn were exchanged for shell beads with the dwellers of the Mediterranean or Red Sea coasts — and presto, the land of Jordan experienced the ancient equivalent of export industries, and issues of employment, import-substitution, balance of payments and balance of trade.

In the last four decades of modern Jordan, questions of small and medium scale industrialization generally have taken a back seat to the growth of the public sector, agriculture and mineral exports. In the boom decade of 1974-1983, the issue was confounded and distorted by the ease with which Jordan imported most of what it needed, and many things it did not need — but things which we imported because the dinar was overvalued. Foreign imports were relatively cheap, money was flowing into the country from seemingly endless sources, the public and private sectors were equally reckless and shortsighted in their spending and borrowing habits, and (after the death of the late prime minister Sherif Abdel Hamid Sharaf) we lacked credible figures who could point out the inevitable consequences of our spending and consuming patterns.

Those consequences became apparent very suddenly last year, when private remittances slowed sharply, foreign exchange reserves dried up, the value of the dinar crashed, the government could neither service its foreign debt nor provide the banking system with its foreign exchange needs, and — in the absence of credible action or explanations by the government — public hysteria reached the point where mothers and falafel makers who for decades used to talk of friends, family, old times and the Palestine issue suddenly started greeting one another with questions about the exchange value of the dollar that morning.

Now that things have settled

down and the exchange value of the dinar has stabilized, one can return to the business of thoughtful and grown men and women calmly discussing what needs to be done to move the Jordanian economy onto a path of rational, balanced, equitable and sustainable long-term growth. In this context, the papers and comments in this book should be relevant to those decision makers, economists, private businessmen and interested international parties (diplomats, bankers, foreign aid donors) who seek to take advantage of the moment to redress Jordan's economic weaknesses by strengthening its export potential and rationalising its imports.

What is particularly interesting is the fact that several of the speakers at the conference are now in key decision-making ministerial positions. It will be intriguing to see how many of their recommendations they try to implement now that they have the political authority (and, presumably, the national economic impetus) to push for more effective change.

The papers published in the book cover:

— Problems of international competitiveness in manufacturing industry (Tayseer Abdel Jaber, Faysel Soheimat, Fahed Faneh).

— A comparison with the Korean experience in export promotion vs import substitution (Chungsoo Kim, Safwan Toqan, Lutz Hoffman).

— The role of small and medium enterprises in industrial growth and employment creation (Sudhir Chitale, Mohammad Smadi, Samir Radwan).

— International business cooperation and joint ventures (Christian Pollak, Isam Bdeir, Saleh Azoum).

— Upgrading product quality and the role of standards and specifications (Hugo Eckesler, Arafat Tamimi, Hassan Saudi, Hamed Alameddine).

— The human factor in industrialization and organizational management effectiveness in Jordan (Ivor McElveen, John Andriaca, Zaki Ayyoubi).

— Financing industry (Ziyad Annab, Basil Jardaneh).

— Jordan's commodity-producing sectors (Matthias Buhbe).

While a few of the papers are slightly technical, the entire collection is a valuable overview of specific issues that are directly and immediately relevant to the Jordanian economy today — and when we talk about "the Jordanian economy today," in an era of swift economic adjustment, we are really talking about individuals and families who have to make day-to-day decisions about what they can or cannot afford to buy, to eat, to study, or even to dream of.

Economics in Jordan is no longer relegated to the back pages of the newspapers. It has taken on a human dimension. It is now the science and the saga of mothers and fathers who worry about adequately feeding, clothing, educating and employing their children, during an era of rising prices. But, of course, we will make it through this difficult period, and we will be stronger and wiser for the experience — if we have prudence, honesty and decisiveness by the government, and rationality, hard work and en-

THE INDUSTRIALIZATION OF JORDAN

ACHIEVEMENTS & OBSTACLES

Editors: Matthias Buhbe
Sami Zreigat

Amman - Jordan 1989

entrepreneurship by the private sector.

The Jordanian economy is fortunate in having a healthy balance among its main sectors, including manufacturing industry, minerals, agriculture, tourism and services. The industrial sector should be able to take advantage of the more competitive value of the dinar to register significant increases in exports, and therefore in foreign exchange earnings — which makes the discussions in this book ultimately directly relevant to all mothers and falafel makers in the realm.

One hopes that the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Royal Scientific Society, or other such bodies, would build on the valuable experience of this conference and book by doing two things: 1) develop a credible fol-

low-up mechanism so that the important issues raised do not dissipate in the haze of time, and 2) organize similar conferences for other sectors of the economy, in order to enrich decision-makers with the kind of practical recommendations that can only emerge from the combined efforts of government officials, private sector business people and international specialists.

The Industrialization of Jordan: Achievements and Obstacles

Editors: Matthias Buhbe, Sami Zreigat, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
Royal Scientific Society
Amman, 1989
168 pp., JD 5

Eddie Murphy

The man behind the million dollar smile

By Rita Tainola
Special to the Jordan Times

"OF COURSE I want to get married; but I do not trust women," — says who? None other than Eddie Murphy, in a rare interview with a woman. But, somehow he was in a good mood. But then, he was doing the interview to promote his new film.

Why doesn't he want to get married? "Because they want to marry a superstar, Eddie Murphy, not the human being Eddie Murphy. I want to have one wife for the rest of my life, not for just a few years."

It is obvious that Murphy talks like that. He has been dating many girls; in fact some of them have already sued him for fraternity for millions and millions of dollars. It is only understandable that his publicist does not want to comment on "these rumours and articles" that appear in daily American tabloids.

Murphy himself has said many times that he does not like to give interviews because he does not like journalists. But for publicity, he does have to go through the routine and make himself available to the press. Well, that's what he says.

Murphy's latest film, "Coming to America," has been a blockbuster and made him the second richest actor in the world with a worth of about one tenth of a billion dollars. He has his own

fancy office at Paramount Studios in Los Angeles, a rare privilege.

Murphy has just finished another new project, "The Harlem Nights," with Richard Pryor as co-star with an added significance. "I have always admired Richard ever since I was a small boy," says Murphy. "I hoped I could work with him one day. Now it is possible."

"The Harlem Nights" is a comedy reflecting life in the well-known New York district in the 1930s. Murphy's good friend Arsenio Hall — the star who plays his servant in Coming to America — has a meaty co-star role in the film.

By the way, Coming to America is going strong in Europe and in some places in the United States itself, bringing Paramount over \$100 million. It is a charming story of an African prince coming to the U.S. and finding a "commoner" to get married to.

The twist is that the prince keeps his royal identity a secret. He wanted the girl to fall in love with HIM, not "THE PRINCE."

Well, Murphy appears to have found his forte in the movie. "The story of my life is like that," says the superstar. "For me it is difficult to find a woman who would like me as a person, not as the 'Eddie Murphy.'"

Jokes and no jokes

For all practical and technical purposes, Eddie Murphy is in-

deed a very nice 29-year-old bachelor who is very sympathetic to others. He splices his talks with jokes but if his counterpart is smart it is very easy to see that the star who triggers some of the most hilarious scenes that Hollywood has given us in recent times does not really like to laugh at every second or even make a joke.

Sitting in front of me in New York, Murphy says that he gives an interview only because he wants to promote his movies. He says that he does not trust journalists; he only trusts his friends. Some of his movies tell facts of his own life. He writes the scripts together with somebody or alone and takes instances from real life.

"No, I do not have a girlfriend. I simply cannot accept the fact that who is dating me is doing so because I am a superstar. I have few real friends and that is enough at this point in my life," he says.

"Of course I want to get married. I want to have many kids and even my mother wants me to get married. She would like to have a little granddaughter. But it seems that I do not find the right girls. Either I say something wrong or the relationship just goes wrong. I do not want to get married just for the sake of it. I want to get married so that it lasts forever and only once," he adds.

"My heart belongs to good people."

Murphy says he is very con-

servative regarding women. He respects the old traditions. He loves people of every colour, every age.

He lives in New Jersey and Los Angeles and his doors are always open for friends. He says that he does not want to be alone in the house. His house can be full of friends but he still sits alone in a movie room of his house and watches a film. But the feeling that he is not alone in the house is enough for him.

Murphy helps in every possible way people who need help. He, himself comes from the street so he knows how it is to try to survive. If he sees a poor man on the street he stops and gives hundreds of dollars to that man. He does not count his money when he sees a suffering person. He gives money to charity, but closest to his heart are of course his mother and his relatives.

During the interview his mother was sitting on a sofa behind us. Even his five security men were nearby. All his security men are his relatives.

"Many people have asked me why I have so many security men around me. The answer is simple; so many people disturb me when I move in night-clubs or on the street that I simply want to be left alone," he explains.

Murphy loves people, but in his own way and by his own rules.

The megastar

When Paramount Pictures

signed an agreement with Murphy they hardly thought that this man was to bring money for the studio as much as he has brought. Eddie is the biggest megastar in the company's history. He has done for Paramount Pictures "48 Hours," Beverly Hills Cop I and II and the third one is on its way. The Golden Child and now, Coming to America. And he just finished The Harlem Nights. His own favourite is Coming to America.

"After finishing my next project I will start filming Coming to America number two," he promises.

This megastar is a son of a New York policeman. He started acting when he was 15 years old. At the same time he wrote small comedies. The young boy was so talented that some of the New York restaurants and comedy clubs invited him to perform in their facilities. Somebody saw him and made it possible for him to perform in the hit-show Saturday Night Live in 1980. From that programme Murphy got two Emmy-nominations and lots of publicity. Then he got the part in the movie "48 Hours" and after that way to stardom was wide open.

"I cannot explain where I get my stories and how I invent my jokes. Perhaps I just look around and feel because I have feelings.

It hurts when somebody writes bad things about me even now, although it should not. But perhaps no actor ever becomes so

hard that he or she does not get hurt if they see wrong things about themselves in the papers. I think that I have reached an audience that whatever I do people go to see it. The Golden Child was a mistake, but the only one."

"Before I was in front of the camera, but now I am directing Harlem Nights. I think that I am now ready as a director," he says.

Goodbye Murphy

Murphy spoke very calmly during the whole interview. In the end I noticed that he had not made so many jokes. He is actually a very serious guy. I thank him for the wonderful opportunity to meet him and talk with him. He looks at my eyes and says:

"Only few people in the world have time to look at other people's eyes when they communicate. I have the time."

I take the evening plane to Los Angeles with a good feeling inside of me, Eddie Murphy is a good person.

Few days after my interview I was standing in the traffic lights in Beverly Hills. A black Rolls was standing in the lane beside me. The car windows were so black that it was impossible to see who was sitting in that Rolls. Suddenly the window goes down, a smiling Eddie Murphy looks at me and says:

"Didn't we meet in New York? It was a nice interview, thank you and say hello to the good people of the world."

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MIGA fails high expectation

WASHINGTON (AP) — The World Bank may have been overly optimistic about its plan to insure private investors in the Third World against war and violence, bank president Barber Conable said Sunday.

It launched the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) over a year ago, and it has yet to issue its first policy.

"All of us hoped that these activities would have translated into a few guarantee operations by the end of this fiscal year," Barber told a meeting called to explain its operations.

"We have learned the truth of the old Spanish proverb: 'Traveller: There is no path, the path is made by walking.' We have been optimistic — over-

optimistic, perhaps — and must face the fact that negotiations with private investors must move slowly. Approvals of bilateral arrangements by member governments require considerable time and effort, particularly for such a new venture," he noted.

He said 53 of the bank's 152 member governments have become members of the new agency.

Some governments dislike letting an outside organization decide when events within the country have damaged a foreign invest-

ment, since their own courts would not have the last word in disputed cases.

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation, which insures U.S. investors, has run into the same problem. It was working in 22 countries last year, however, and made a record \$135.3 million on its operations — one of the few U.S. government agencies to turn a profit.

It has been hoped that some governments, reluctant to let an agency from another government do the job, will tolerate the new one because it is international.

Investors who want to put about \$375 million into 11 Third World countries have asked for guarantees, the new agency announced earlier this month. "They came from Canada, De-

mark, West Germany, Italy, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Britain and the United States.

A spokesman, who insisted on anonymity, said the first policy was due to be issued in the next couple of months.

New investment in Third World countries dropped to \$13 million from \$25 billion between 1982 and 1987, the last year for which figures are available. That meant fewer new jobs, less production, smaller exports and more pressure for new grants and loans from richer countries.

"All around the globe, nations that once perceived the private sector as marginal, threatening, irrelevant or all of the above, are giving their own entrepreneurs and partners from abroad new



Barber Conable

latitude and encouragement," Conable said.

He noted that business people dislike going where they are not welcome.

"MIGA's protection against non-commercial risks will often be the key that opens the door to foreign direct investment in developing countries," he added.

Indians receive large orders from Jordanians

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The exclusive nine-day Indian trade exhibition held in Amman this month has contributed to Indo-Jordanian trade with transactions exceeding \$6 million of which reserved trial orders were valued over \$1 million, the organisers announced Monday.

Business deals under finalisation are valued over \$5 million according to the Trade Fair Authority of India (TFAI). "We saw the results as positive," V.D. Rao, general manager of TFAI, told reporters at a briefing.

The fair, which attracted nearly 50,000 people according to Rao, was aimed at addressing India's large trade deficit with Jordan by familiarising Jordanian consumers and businessmen with India's products.

"We have very close political relations which are not reflected in trade," the Indian ambassador to Jordan, Gajendra Singh, told reporters. "The problem with trade has been a result of an information gap," he added.

India's telecommunications firm, the Indian Telephone Industries (ITI), is bidding for a tender at the end of this month to supply the country with 25,000 push-button telephones, according to ITI General Manager V.

Krishnan.

The company has also made arrangements with the Jordanian government to send two pilot telephone systems suitable for use in Jordan's rural areas for a six-month period. "We are sure it will work," Krishnan told reporters.

"We have similar harsh weather conditions and the systems are designed to operate without trouble in zero to 50 degrees Centigrade."

Jordan has agreed to "try" to buy \$50 million worth of Indian

goods, according to A.K. Gandhi, resident manager of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India.

"India is not what it was ten years ago."

The yawning trade imbalance between the two countries was \$116 million in favour of Jordan in 1988, and is expected to grow even more this year since India plans to buy Jordanian phosphates and related products worth \$150 million to \$170 million.

'Tough austerity awaits Soviet workers'

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet workers will have to endure tough austerity measures to help the country overcome its massive budget deficit, a leading reformist economist said.

Leonid Abalkin, a deputy prime minister and close adviser to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, told the government newspaper *Izvestia* that cutting the deficit was the Kremlin's top priority.

He said the government would introduce an "austere economy of resources" and keep a lid on wage increases through taxation of funds available for pay hikes.

Wages would have to be kept down and resources conserved in order to attack the budget deficit, now running at \$200 million, he said.

"There is no alternative to perestroika, there is no alternative to radical economic and political reform. Rejection of the closure of perestroika means rejection of the future," he said.

Abalkin noted the economic situation in the country had continued to deteriorate in the past 24 months, with innovation, pro-

ductivity and quality all lagging behind.

As a result, dissatisfaction with the pace of reform was mounting, he said.

An ambitious budget plan for 1990, including the selling off of loss-making enterprises and the issuing of bonds, will be put before the Soviet parliament.

The plan seeks to halve the deficit, to \$100 million, by the end of 1990.

"The government is aware of the depth of the crisis. The extraordinary situation will require extraordinary measures," Abalkin said.

But in an apparent bid to calm recent rumours of a devaluation of the rouble, he said the government would not resort to currency reform to stabilise the foundering economy.

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has said that Washington could help open up the struggling Soviet economy to the rest of the world.

Baker told a news conference that Moscow wanted to develop a market economy and that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard She-

vardnadze had signalled the Kremlin's interest in learning from U.S. experience.

He said they had talked at length about the problems of the Soviet economy, including the flood of paper money and the need to make the rouble convertible.

"We've not been requested — and the Soviet side made it quite clear, they are not coming to the United States for grants, assistance, loans, or that sort of thing," Baker told reporters.

"I think there is an interest in learning from our experience. There is an interest in taking steps to open up that economy and move it toward a more open system, and perhaps there are some things that we could contribute there," he noted.

His remarks made it clear that he was not talking about extensive bankrolling of Soviet economic reforms.

Baker's comments suggested he had thought hard about the difficulties faced by Soviet economists and wished to help.

He said he believed Gorbachev recognised the difficulties in-

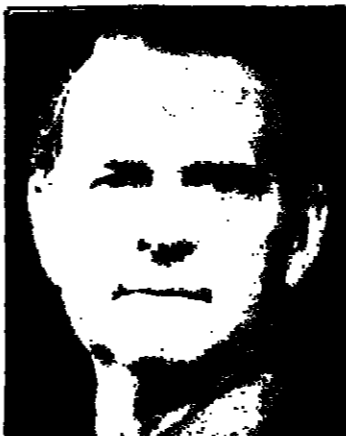
volvement in changing a closed communist economy to an open market one, particularly in establishing a new pricing system which would mark up basic goods such as meat and bread.

"Before you do price system and convertibility, though, there are some other problems that have to be taken care of, in our opinion," Baker said.

"One is the rouble overhang (surplus). One is the whole idea of incentive and competition that has to be somehow put into that system. And a third is the requirement for some sort of safety net, if you are going to move to a price system after 60 to 70 years, whatever it is, of having a totally different approach," Baker said. "It's very difficult to do it cold turkey and do it overnight."

Baker, a former treasury secretary, did not spell out any particular steps Washington might take to help Moscow.

But he repeated the Bush administration pledge to return most favoured nation trading status to the Soviet Union once it has passed laws encoding its new liberalised emigration policies.



James Baker

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Jordan exports total JD 325.8 m in '88

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian national exports in 1988 amounted to JD 325.8 million compared to JD 248.8 million in 1987, an increase of 30.9 per cent, a bulletin on foreign trade issued Monday by the General Statistics Department said.

The reexport trade in 1988 dropped by 17 per cent compared to the year before from JD 66.9 million to JD 55.5 million, the bulletin added. Furthermore, it said, Jordan's imports increased by 11.6 per cent in 1988 rising from JD 916 million in 1987 to JD 1,022 million in 1988. Jordan's exports to Arab countries in 1988 constituted 41.9 per cent of the total with Iraq keeping the first rank as it received 19.8 per cent of exports. Phosphate accounted for 35.8 per cent of exports, potash 24.6 per cent, pharmaceutical products 5.7 per cent, agricultural products 4.1 per cent, chemical products 2.4 per cent, iron 1.9 per cent, dairy products 1.8 per cent, woollen products 1.6 per cent, and paper 1.5 per cent.

Iraq opens engine-producing factory

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq has opened a two-million-dinar (\$5 million) factory in Alexandria, 60 kilometres south of Baghdad, to build engines for tractors. The plant was built by the state-run Automobile Manufacturing Enterprise and will produce about 10,000 diesel engines a year for tractors assembled in a nearby plant. Design expertise and know-how were supplied by the Turkish company Yazici.

Ethiopia ends fuel rationing

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — The Ethiopian government has ended gasoline rationing and lifted a ban on the use of private vehicles on Sundays. At the same time, however, it sharply increased the cost of gasoline. The price of a litre of regular gasoline was increased from 1.19 birr (about 57 cents) to 1.50 birr (about 72 cents), or the equivalent of \$2.74 per gallon. The prices of other basic fuels, including diesel, kerosene and cooking gas, remained unchanged under the government directive. The Ethiopian news agency said the ban on use of private vehicles on Sundays, in effect since 1985, was lifted "to allow the private sector to participate effectively in the economic life of the nation."

Wang announces borrowing plan

BOSTON (AP) — In its latest effort to strengthen its financial future, Wang Laboratories Inc. has announced that it completed a deal to borrow up to \$175 million. Wang officials said in a prepared statement the agreement with CIT Group-Business Credit Inc., whose parent company is Manufacturers Hanover Corp., is part of its recently-announced restructuring plan. Wang reported a \$424 million loss for the fiscal year ended June 30, which led to thousands of employee layoffs and upper level reshuffling. The company expects to layoff 2,200 of its 30,000

employees by the end of this month. "Our revenue outlook reflects the difficult competitive environment which we have been experiencing for some time, particularly in the U.S.," a written statement said. The U.S.-based company introduced a new line of four IBM-compatible personal computers earlier this month in an attempt to restore customer confidence and boost sales. The computers sport a price tag of about \$600 below that of U.S.-based Compaq, the leading producer of IBM compatibles.

Tunisia seeks big purchase of trucks

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia's state trading agency, the Office Du Commerce Extérieur, has invited tenders for the supply of more than 20,000 heavy vehicles in a deal which would be worth hundreds of millions of dollars. The tender is for 18,900 trucks with a capacity of between three and 11 tonnes and for 1,300 trailer tractors. The Libyan market will take 15,000 of the trucks. The agency is acting for Libya under a joint purchasing arrangement designed to cut costs for both countries. The vehicles are for delivery over five years.

Dubai to build \$680m desalination plant

DUBAI (R) — The Gulf emirate of Dubai plans to set up a 2.5-billion dirham (\$680 million) desalination plant to boost water supplies, Al Bayan daily has said. It said 30 companies were bidding for the project, which will have a 650-megawatt power plant and will produce 20 billion gallons of sweet water per year. The plant, expected to be completed by 1993, will raise Dubai's water production to about 32 billion gallons per year.

Brazil continues raising fuel prices

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The government has raised retail fuel prices by an average of 35.5 per cent. It was the 12th price increase this year and the second this month. The pump price of gasoline, which is mixed 22 per cent with alcohol, went up to 1.91 New Cruzados a litre, or the equivalent of \$2.20 a gallon. Fuel prices have risen 54.3 per cent during the first 15 days of September. Price increases also were ordered for other petroleum products, including fuel oil, cooking gas, diesel fuel and kerosene. The price of pure alcohol fuel, which powers about 30 per cent of Brazil's 13 million vehicles, went up to 1.43 New Cruzados a litre, or \$1.65 a gallon. The government subsidises alcohol fuel to keep it 25 per cent cheaper than gasoline. However, the National Petroleum Council said it was considering reducing the difference to cut costs. The increase was the biggest this year. The petroleum council said it was intended to recoup losses caused by inflation, which was 29.34 per cent in August and 1,084 per cent for the past 12 months.

Central banks break dollar's back

WASHINGTON (AP) — The value of the U.S. dollar plunged in hectic trading on world currency markets Monday as the world's richest countries dumped the greenback as a way of showing their determination to block any further rise in the U.S. currency.

The dollar sell-off began in Japanese currency markets in turbulent trading which was later matched in European and New York markets.

Traders reported that the dollar's plunge was aided by coordinated selling on the part of the central banks of the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France and Canada.

Finance ministers and central bank presidents from those countries, along with Italy, Saturday issued a blunt statement expressing displeasure with increases this year in the dollar's value, a rise which many fear will abort needed improvement in the U.S. trade deficit. A stronger dollar makes U.S. products less competitive on overseas markets.

The finance ministers, in Washington for the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, pronounced their satisfaction Monday with the dollar's decline.

French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy said that the coordinated intervention on the part of governments to push the dollar lower was a "confirmation and illustration" of the resolve of the Group of Seven (G-7) to cooperate on international economic matters.

Some critics have complained

that the G-7 coordination process was in danger of coming apart, given a failure so far in the year by the group to influence the dollar's exchange rate.

Bérégovoy, briefing reporters at the French embassy, said that the G-7 communiqué "meant what it said," and he said it reflected "the reassertion of our common will to cooperate in monetary terms."

In Tokyo, where trading ends before Europe's business day begins, the dollar plunged 2.05 yen to a closing 142.95 yen. The dollar later fell even further in London trading.

Karl Otto Poehl, president of the West German central bank, confirmed for reporters that widespread intervention was occurring and said that it was "appropriate and reasonable" given the need to make further progress in reducing world trade imbalances.

Despite Monday's sharp plunge in the dollar's value, private economists said it remained to be seen whether intervention would work any better in the long term than it has up until now at keeping the U.S. currency from rising.

The sessions of the IMF and World Bank are focusing on such topics as efforts by President George Bush's administration to reduce a portion of the Third World's debt burden and proposals to assist in the dramatic political and economic reforms under way in Poland and Hungary.

In the G-7 communiqué, issued late Saturday after a day of

closed-door discussions, U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady and his counterparts from the other countries expressed their displeasure with the persistent increase in the dollar's value this year.

The joint statement called the dollar's increase "inconsistent with longer-run economic fundamentals" and said a further rise could "adversely affect prospects for the world economy."

The Saturday session was the first meeting of the finance ministers and central bank presidents since last April. At that time, the officials had also decried the rising value of the dollar, although the language used was milder in tone.

The stepped-up sense of urgen-

cy led many private economists to expect a heavy effort at intervention Monday.

David Jones, an economist with Aubrey G. Lanston and Co., a government securities dealer, said he was also looking for Japan and West Germany to show more willingness in the months ahead to raise interest rates in their countries as a way of influencing currency markets.

Higher interest rates overseas relative to U.S. rates would make dollar-denominated investments less attractive to foreign investors.

But some analysts said they were not sure whether the latest effort would be any more successful than the April vow to keep the dollar from rising in value.

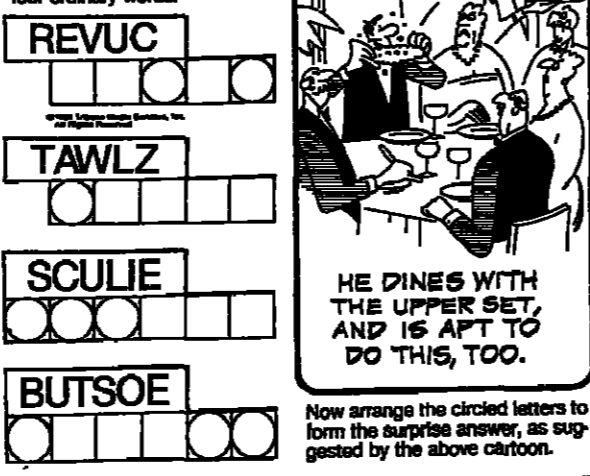
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"...liver, spleen, lungs, knuckles, sleeping, breathing! It's amazing how much I have in common with Julio Iglesias!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: HIS

Yesterday's Jumbles: DINER MADAM GIGGLE ORPHAN
Answer: What that eccentric door-to-door salesman must have been — a "DING-DONG"

Peanuts

Mutt'n' Jeff

Andy Capp



100 hurt in soccer riots

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Fans of two rival soccer clubs hurled rocks, bricks and homemade bombs at each other following a match in southern Bangladesh. Police said more than 100 people, including 12 policemen, were hurt.

At least 29 people were arrested on charges of rioting, police said Monday.

The brawl began Sunday night in the port city of Chittagong after a match between league champion Abahani Sports Club and the Brothers Union ended in a 1-1 draw, police said by telephone.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A K 8 2
 ♥ A K 6
 ♦ J 10 7 4
 ♣ 6 2

EAST
 ♠ Q J 10 9
 ♥ 7 5 4 3
 ♦ 8 6 2
 ♣ Q J 8 3

SOUTH
 ♠ 5 3
 ♥ J 10
 ♦ A K Q
 ♣ A K 10 9 7 4

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
 3 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
 Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠
 One of our favorite definitions of a pessimist is that he is someone who has spent some time with an optimist. Certainly, at the bridge table it pays to view life through dark glasses.

South had a difficult bid at his second turn. His club suit was perhaps a whisker away from a jump bid, but his overall strength merited strong action and to jump in diamonds with only three-card support was unattractive. North bid what he

expected to make on power, and chose the suit contract because it might have offered more maneuverability in case of a bad trump split.

West led the queen of spades, and to those who see only the pleasant things in life, there is no problem. They win and bang out the ace-king of trumps, and dolefully concede down one when the cards lie as in the diagram.

The pessimist realizes that a 4-1 trump break could endanger his contract. If West holds four trumps, declarer would need X-ray vision and a very fortunate lie of the cards to salvage the contract, unless East had a hard honor. But if East were to hold four trumps...

After winning the king of spades, declarer cashed a high trump just in case a singleton honor happened to fall. When only low cards appeared, declarer elected to take a safety play against the possibility that East held all the remaining trumps. He crossed to the table with a heart and led dummy's last trump, inserting the nine when East followed with the eight. When that held, he claimed his slam, conceding only one trump. (East West won the second trump, that would have meant that only one trump was outstanding, which declarer could draw as soon as he regained the lead.)

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to confine yourself to whatever worldly tasks and obligations or responsibilities that have been making demands on your life. Use every chance you have to build your name and credit.

ARIES: (March 20 to April 17) You will be able to fit every detail of your work into its proper place this week. There will be several projects available now by which you can add to your income.

Taurus: (April 18 to May 19) Both men and women who are talented will lead you a hand at your work today. Your creative ideas for making more money are splendid now so follow them.

GEMINI: (May 20 to June 20) Whatever you will do at work today should be of a very basic nature. A business proposition from a distance looks good but has many opportunities connected with it.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 21 to July 21) A change in your work that you had planned has been delayed but don't get upset. If you try to pull anything wrong today, you will lose money.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Listen to the valuable suggestions being given you by a good friend to do a better job at your work. You need to be better informed of all facts and figures before getting into any investments today.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Lend a hand to a friend who is having a difficult time and you can then enjoy yourself. This is the time for brilliant ideas.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 22) Expertise necessary to your advancement is not just yet yours, but persevere and it will be. Avoid hasty, impulsive investments for

they could lose you the shirt off your back.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You will need to call upon your past experiences to do a good job at your work today. You will gain security now by handling all obligations with good common sense.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 20) You will have several courses that you can pursue at work. Do just as much as is possible. A very good friend will see that you will have a very good time today.

CAPRICORN: (December 21 to January 18) You have many persons who are willing to give you good ideas for your work today. Don't be too hasty in an involvement of a business nature.

AQUARIUS: (January 19 to February 17) You will be well advised to avoid getting in a fracas with fellow associates today. A successful friend will give you an idea for increasing your income.

PISCES: (February 18 to March 21) You can get a great deal done at work today in spite of one who aggravates you very much. You will be able to add well to your income by something you get for your home.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will be able to get ahead with every practical plan, once every odd angle has been exposed well studied and put into proper perspective. A proper education is a must for this progeny who will want to stay in school or some sort of formal training longer than is required for their degree.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

THE Daily Crossword by William F. Baxley

ACROSS

- 1 Canoe
- 5 Moving objects
- 9 Garden pest
- 14 Ford city
- 15 Adjoin
- 16 Heat
- 17 Eleven or nine?
- 18 Portal
- 19 N. city
- 20 Fleet
- 22 Lues
- 24 Mail bills
- 26 Sport features
- 27 Brave
- 31 Motel
- 32 Pottery
- 33 Penetrate
- 35 Victoria
- 36 Bathes
- 41 More arid
- 43 Rice liquor
- 44 Correct texts
- 46 Void
- 48 Anger
- 49 Grand rating
- 51 Ancient Italian
- 53 Aut
- 57 Seller
- 59 N. city
- 60 Woolly beast
- 64 Polynesian
- 65 Against
- 67 Treaty
- 68 Concede
- 69 On one's — (alert)
- 70 Calabre cash
- 71 Germs
- 72 Stella
- 73 Elysian

DOWN

- 1 Tribunal of pretenses
- 2 Admit
- 3 Hit hard
- 4 Love apple
- 5 Nones
- 6 Saw gp.
- 7 Cuckoo
- 8 Pseudonym
- 9 Regarded highly
- 10 Monkey and man
- 11 Up (riding)
- 12 Silly
- 13 Depressions
- 21 Venture
- 23 Cross
- 25 Vedic teaching
- 27 Glen
- 28 "Madam, I'm —"
- 29 Adore
- 30 Fr. river
- 34 Leases
- 36 Secular
- 37 Quince
- 38 Observed
- 40 Captivated
- 42 Farmer
- 43 Newspapers
- 47 Pause
- 49 Cassette to friends
- 52 Major commodity
- 53 Egyptian notions
- 54 Sumbance
- 55 Relative of a seed
- 56 Lee — Unit
- 58 Plenty for poets
- 59 Servant
- 62 Land measure
- 63 "The Man"
- 65 Coling

Saturday's Puzzle Solvent

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Krickstein beats Chang, wins Volvo tournament

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fifth-seeded Aaron Krickstein rallied to win the last five games of the second set and upset top-seeded Michael Chang 2-6, 6-4, 6-2, in the finals of the Volvo Tennis Men's Tournament Sunday.

Krickstein, who overcame seven match points to beat second-seeded Brad Gilbert in Saturday night's semifinals, won \$59,500 from a purse of \$425,000. He improved to 2-0 lifetime against Chang.

"I've watched a lot of sports all of my life and I know it's never over," said Krickstein. "I'm the kind of player who it takes one or two points to get it going."

Chang, who hadn't lost a set in

four previous matches here, broke Krickstein at love in the opening game of the first set, broke him again in the fifth game for a 4-1 lead and the two served out the set.

Chang also went up 4-1 in the second set, but that's when Krickstein started his streak.

He kept it going in the eighth game when, with Chang leading 4-3 and serving at game point, Krickstein sent it to deuce. He got the advantage when Chang hit a forehand long, then broke Chang by hitting a forehand lob over his head.

Chang began netting backhanded shots in the second set, a problem that continued in the

third. When Krickstein broke Chang at love with a backhand approach shot to win the match, he yelled, "I did it."

"I was sluggish at first; that's why he got a big lead," Krickstein said. "Once the shadows came in and it got cooler I got my second wind. I got more aggressive."

"At 4-1 (in the second set) he double-faulted. He hit two backhand errors and he opened the crack a little. I started playing his backhand. I got some momentum. When I'm down I can streak. Then I can control the play. Sometimes I'm streaky and I lose confidence," Krickstein said.

"Everything kind of shut



Michael Chang

down," said Chang. "He started to play better and I started hitting a few errors. As the match went on I got less and less winners down the backhand side. I have no excuses. What can I say? My hat's off to him."

Evert not going gracefully into retirement

ASPEN, Colorado (AP) — Chris Evert is learning to relax, but she isn't quite ready to trade in her tennis racket for a fishing rod.

"This demands too much patience," Evert said, standing midstream in the roaring Fork River recently before dropping a quick set of love to the trout.

That comment, from the most enduring baseliner in history, may say a lot about Evert's impending change of lifestyle.

Evert, who will play an exhibition match in Denver Wednesday against Martina Navratilova, insists she's still very much an active tennis player, and the daily pace she keeps belies talk of retirement.

That morning, she puffed and perspired and threw her body all

over the court in a vigorous 1½-hour workout at the Aspen Club. Then, after her quick stint fly-fishing with husband Andy Mill, she took on a decorator helping redesign the couple's new 650-square metre home in the fashionable Starwood area outside town.

"The estimate came in double what we had budgeted," Evert said with a glint in her eye that promised the decorator was in for a long, hard match.

Then she returned to the club for another hour and a half on the weights, followed by a run up the Ute trail, a steep, 300-vertical-metre path straight up a mountain face.

Despite talk that Evert would call it quits after her quarterfinal

loss in the U.S. Open, she is looking ahead to an exhibition Tuesday with Navratilova in Seattle, and Saturday-Sunday matches in Philadelphia with Martina and four others. Then she'll arrive in Tokyo Oct. 2 to represent the United States in Federation Cup play, the women's equivalent of Davis Cup.

"You can see I haven't quit; not yet," she said. "I think I got retired a little bit against my will. What I said was I wouldn't play any more grand slam events, and people took it from there."

"I'll probably play off and on until March or April. I haven't come to terms with the finality of it yet."

What apparently has sunk in, as she soothes her feet in the cold

rush of the river, is a new feeling of relaxation. Evert is clad in chest-high waders and sunglasses, all the trappings of a fishing person, and she leans back to let the sun bathe her face.

"The announcement took some of the pressure off. I definitely feel less pressure. For the first time in my life I have freedom," she said.

DOGS FOUND

Two dogs were found in Abdoun area. Please contact telephone 810600 for identification and collection.

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FRENCH CULTURAL CENTRE

Registration is now open at the French Cultural Centre for the following courses:

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- Arabic language courses for foreigners
- Music courses (piano - flute - guitar)
- Arts courses for women (art of flower making, silk, painting, ceramics, painting on glass).

The registration will last on Saturday Sept. 30, 1989 and the courses will start on Sunday Oct. 1 till Dec. 16, 1989.

For more information, please contact the French Cultural Centre, telephone 637009, 636445, Amman.

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World Cup: Uruguay qualifies, Colombia advances

NEW YORK (AP) — Uruguay qualified for its third consecutive World Cup, beating Peru 2-0 Sunday on two second-half goals by Ruben Sosa. Colombia advanced to the final round of qualifying when Ecuador beat Paraguay 3-1.

Uruguay, eliminated by Argentina in the second round of the 1986 World Cup, finished with six

points in South America group one. Uruguay and Bolivia had 3-1 records but Uruguay advanced on a 7-2 goal differential, better than Bolivia's 6-5.

Uruguay won the World Cup in 1930, its first year, and in 1950, when the United States made its last appearance in the tournament.

Tafa wins marathon

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Tesfaye Tafa of Ethiopia won Sunday's Mexico City marathon with a record-setting time of 2:17.55, while Flora Moreno of Mexico won the women's division at 2:44.34.

Over 18,000 men and 1,000 women started the 26-mile, 385-year race, following blue lines painted through the streets of Mexico City.

Tafa and Moreno broke the men's and women's course records, set in 1987 by Rodolfo Gomez (2:18.46) and Eileen

Craugus of the United States (2:45.30).

Second place in the men's division was taken by Benjamin Paredes at 2:19.03. The women's runner-up was Maria Elena Reina, 2:44.52.

The number of racers was down sharply from an unwieldy 31,000 participants last year. Five hours after the race began some were still walking in an effort to complete the course, although police had allowed automobile traffic to resume flowing.

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Amman, Jordan.

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The National Music Conservatory / Noor Al Hussein Foundation

has the pleasure to announce the following:

The conservatory will offer a classical guitar course to all ages in private and group lessons.

In addition the conservatory has started organising a musical choir for children between the ages 7-12 years. Training will be twice a week for group singing and musical reading.

Registration takes place at the National Music Conservatory, Jabal Amman, behind the Kuwaiti embassy, Tel. 687620.

Last day for registration is Saturday, Sept. 30, 1989.

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(Arabic)

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Cinema **ALJOLAH** Tel: 675571

DEADLY PURSUIT

Shows: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

MALIBO HIGH

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Gorbachev sets deadline for end to Armenia siege

MOSCOW (R) — President Mikhail Gorbachev gave the squabbling leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan two days Monday to come up with a solution to a rail blockade paralysing Armenia.

In remarks at the start of the autumn session of the Supreme Soviet, the new inner parliament, Gorbachev said there was little sign that a 20-month-old conflict between the two republics over the region of Nagorno-Karabakh was abating.

"Let us decide to give the republican authorities two days to examine the situation and then, if necessary, concrete measures must be taken," Gorbachev told the parliament, without going into details.

Armenian deputies demanded that the worsening situation in their republic be put on the agenda of the Supreme Soviet, which is due to discuss the country's mounting ethnic problems as well as economic reform during a two-

month session.

Sergei Ambartsumyan, rector of the university in the capital Yerevan, said the blockade was "shameful for the Communist Party, shameful for the country."

"I believe our parliament must give guarantees against occurrences like this anywhere," Ambartsumyan said.

Rail workers in Azerbaijan, backed by the republic's radical popular front movement, have been blocking goods traffic to the neighbouring republic for more than a month in the latest stage of a dispute which has cost more than 100 lives.

More than 85 per cent of freight supplies to Armenia from elsewhere in the Soviet Union travel through Azerbaijan.

The row was provoked by demands by Nagorno-Karabakh's Armenian majority for the mountainous enclave ruled by Azerbaijan since 1923 transferred to Armenia.

Gorbachev told deputies he

had received information that rail traffic appeared to have resumed overnight but reports from the region Monday suggested the blockade was continuing.

"During the last 24 hours, only trains with construction materials and newsprint were allowed into Armenia," a statement by the Azerbaijani popular front said.

"The rest of the freight is not being let through."

It said crowds several thousand strong had pledged at a mass meeting in the Azerbaijani capital Baku Sunday to continue the blockade until Armenia dropped its claims to Nagorno-Karabakh.

In Armenia a journalist at the republic's news agency Armenpress told Reuters food and materials for industry were still in extremely short supply in Yerevan.

"The blockade has not been lifted, we checked this morning," he said. "Not a single train has arrived from the Nakhichevan direction (Azerbaijan)."

But four freight trains had arrived from the other direction, from the Georgian capital Tbilisi, bringing some construction materials and fuel.

"It is calm today, everyone is at work but of course the factories are not working at capacity because they do not have the materials," the Armenpress journalist added.

"We have potatoes and vegetables because it is autumn but there is no pasta, cheese, sugar or matches in the shops."

The Armenian parliament appealed to the Supreme Soviet last week to end the blockade which it said was unprecedented in the history of the Soviet Union.

The Azerbaijani parliament responded at the weekend by passing a law declaring its territory indivisible, signalling it would not drop its claim to Nagorno-Karabakh.

Sandinistas nominate Ortega to head slate of candidates

MANAGUA (AP) — The ruling Sandinista Party has nominated President Daniel Ortega to head its slate of candidates for next year's national elections, with Vice President Sergio Ramirez as his running mate.

Interior Minister Tomas Borge, himself a dark horse, introduced the nominations Sunday night, and the 1,746 delegates to the great convention approved the choices by acclamation.

Ortega, 44, who led the leftist Sandinista National Liberation Front to power with the 1979 overthrow of dictator Anastasio Somoza, was a shoo-in from the start and is considered a moderate.

But there had been uncertainty as to who would take the no. 2 spot.

There were reports that Ramirez, 47, a lawyer and novelist who helped moderate the Sandinista image, wanted to retire from public life to dedicate himself fulltime to writing books.

But Borge, the only surviving founder of the Sandinista Front and a hard-liner, would have to give up the powerful interior ministry for the largely ceremonial vice presidency.

Earlier in the day, the convention approved a 31-page platform promising, among other things, better health care, economic growth and a "respectful accord"

with the United States.

The platform, bearing the title-slogan "Everything will be Better," was also approved by acclamation, point by point, as the planks were read aloud by Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the front.

The platform promises to spur economic growth to an annual average of five per cent, reduce infant mortality of 60 per 1,000 by about half, and expand free education to reduce illiteracy to six per cent.

The Nicaraguan economy, damaged by war and a U.S. economic boycott, has become one of the poorest in Latin America.

An estimated 24 per cent of Nicaragua's population of 3.5 million cannot read or write.

The convention, a cross-section of society including women and youth groups, peasants and the armed forces — was also to approve 90 candidates for the national assembly and 145 mayoral candidates for the Feb. 25 elections.

Ortega moved up the date for the current elections in return for a regional agreement on Aug. 7 to disband the U.S.-supported contra rebels who have been trying to topple his government since 1981.

The contras are to be disbanded by the end of the year.

Sihanouk rejects bilateral negotiations

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Cambodian guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Monday he would take part in future peace talks between his country's warring factions only if they were held within an international framework.

In a statement, Sihanouk rejected any bilateral negotiations with Hun Sen, premier of the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh.

"All bilateral meeting between Sihanouk and Hun Sen is excluded," he said. "I will only accept to participate in an international meeting or conference such as the... international conference in Paris on Cambodia."

A copy of Sihanouk's statement, issued in Phnom Penh, was received in Bangkok.

Over the past two weeks, Thailand's Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan has led a last-ditch effort to revive dialogue between the Cambodian rivals and avert an escalation of the country's civil war.

He held talks with Hun Sen and with the leaders of the three guerrilla factions opposing Hun Sen's government.

The guerrillas rejected Chatichai's call for a cease-fire as a



Norodom Sihanouk

prelude to any future peace negotiations. But Saturday, Chatichai said Sihanouk had agreed to another round of talks among the factions.

Sihanouk suggested a meeting that would include the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), France, Vietnam and the four Cambodian factions, Chatichai said. ASEAN is made up of Thailand, Brunei, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

The Thai prime minister said Sihanouk had suggested the meeting be held in either Bangkok, Jakarta or Paris.

Vietnam invaded Cambodia in late 1978. It is due to complete what it calls its final military withdrawal by midnight Tuesday.

Last month's international conference in Paris did little to break the deadlock between the warring groups.

European air traffic tangle worst in world

LONDON (AP) — A single system should replace the complicated patchwork now directing airplanes flying over Europe in the most crowded skies in the world, the editor of "Jane's Airport Equipment" said Monday.

David Rider also wrote of the "waves" still being caused by de-regulation in the U.S. airline industry, estimating it has saved American passengers \$100 billion in the last 11 years.

He said the December bombing of Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, has caused "major reverberations" with governments, aviation authorities, airlines and airports worldwide all trying to find ways to increase security.

The introduction of new systems for controlling personnel and baggage has gone some way to reducing the risk, he said in the introduction to the authorities yearbook.

"However, it is always going to be extremely difficult to find the right balance between providing reasonable security while seeking to minimise the inconvenience to passengers and ensuring complete security, at great cost to passenger and airline-airport authority," Rider said.

Rider said 42 air traffic control centres now use 22 different systems to communicate with one another in Europe "in a most inefficient and time-consuming way."

A flight from London to Athens requires the cooperation of seven countries and 50 air traffic controllers using telex and telephones and spending a total of 35 man hours to arrange the routes and timings, he said.

Bottlenecks in north-south routes are often caused by the fact that Greece has no civil radar network, he said. Controllers there rely on radio communication with pilots, so aircraft must stay 95 kilometres apart instead of 4.8 kilometres apart as they do over Britain.

An aircraft flying the 762 nautical miles between Frankfurt to Madrid passes through the control of seven centres, he said. In the United States, a flight of 751 nautical miles from Chicago to Boston passes through only three centres, he said.

"Congestion in the air as well as on the ground is a major problem in Europe and it is now deemed to be the worst in the world," Rider wrote.

The British charter airline, Britannia Airways, reported that 40 per cent of its flights in April were delayed by air traffic control.

A single, European system is the "obvious solution," he said, "but one which seems unpalatable to many countries since, if implemented correctly, it would mean the unified control of both civil and military airspace throughout Western Europe."



Wreckage of the cabin section of the UTA airliner on the sands of the Sahara

UTA victims go home

PARIS (AP) — Rescuers Sunday brought to Paris the first bodies of victims of a French airliner crash last week in West Africa, hoping that autopsies would help determine whether a bomb brought down UTA Flight 772.

Meanwhile, prosecutors opened an investigation for "murders, voluntary destruction of goods, use of explosives" and other crimes in connection with "a terrorist enterprise of subversion or damaging the security of the state."

The case was assigned Saturday night to investigating magistrate Jean-Louis Bruguiere, a terrorism specialist known for his work in dismantling the extreme-left French group Direct Action.

All 171 people aboard Flight 772 were killed when it exploded in midair over southern Niger. The flight was en route from the Congo to Paris after a stopover in Ndjamena, Chad.

Robert Paillasse, president of the commission of officials from France, Niger and Chad appointed to investigate last Tuesday's crash, said Sunday it appeared the explosion occurred

in a forward cargo compartment.

"Very probable traces of an explosion were in fact concentrated in one of the cargo compartments, situated at the front of the plane," Paillasse said in an interview with French radio RTL from Niger. "It is certain that there was an explosive substance."

He said laboratory tests had begun on debris shipped to Paris "to determine, on the basis of the traces of combustion, which explosive material was involved."

About 40 bodies arrived at Le Bourget airport Sunday aboard a DC-8 cargo plane and were taken immediately to the Paris morgue for identification and autopsy, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

The autopsies should indicate whether the passengers and crew inhaled gases that would provide clues about what caused the plane to blow apart at an altitude of 9,100 metres.

The transport ministry said Saturday that evidence from the crash site and analysis of the recordings of flight data and cockpit conversations left no doubt

that an explosion caused the disaster.

The recordings "showed that flight proceeded in a normal manner until a total interruption, which translates as an explosion in flight," it said. It said the data backed up preliminary findings at the site which "leads us to accept the hypothesis of the presence of explosives on board."

Authorities have been unwilling to speculate about who might have placed a bomb aboard the flight, but appear to be treating with great skepticism the two claims responsibility issued so far.

A previously unknown group calling itself the Secret Chadian Resistance sent statements to Western news agencies in Beirut on Saturday claiming to have bombed the flight as part of a struggle for "the complete withdrawal of all military colonial forces from Africa."

France maintains about 1,600 soldiers in Chad to help the former French colony in its long war with Libya. Chad and Libya have promised to end their dispute peacefully, but Libya has continued to call for withdrawal of all French troops.

Chinese exiles set up democracy movement

PARIS (AP) — Chinese exiles have chosen a leading architect of China's failed political reforms and a charismatic student leader of the pro-democracy movement to guide the international opposition to Beijing's Communist rule.

On the final day of a three-day inaugural meeting of the Federation of Democracy in China, delegates from 15 countries elected Yan Jiaqi and Wu'er Kaixi as chairman and vice-chairman of the group.

"I'm very familiar with political science, but I'm not that familiar with politics," said Yan, the former director of the Institute of Political Science, one of China's leading thinktanks.

"Still, I think my firm belief in a fair and democratic political process will be an advantage in this first year," he said in an interview.

The soft-spoken 47-year-old scholar is on China's wanted list, accused of "counterrevolutionary crimes."

He worked closely with the Beijing students' democracy movement in Tiananmen Square,

crushed by troops who violently recaptured the central square that had been occupied by pro-democracy activists for weeks.

Chinese authorities said less than 300 people died in the June suppression, but witnesses and Western diplomats said the death toll may have exceeded 1,000.

Wu'er, 21, is one of the most charismatic and best-known of the 21 student leaders accused of "counterrevolutionary crimes."

In a national TV newscast, he confronted hard-line Premier Li Peng and fainted after his speech.

Wu'er and his girlfriend Liu Yan were smuggled out of China to Hong Kong, then taken by way of Paris to the United States in late June.

As a student at Beijing Normal University, he was known for delivering compelling speeches on democracy. Now a student at Harvard University, he remains as ardent as ever.

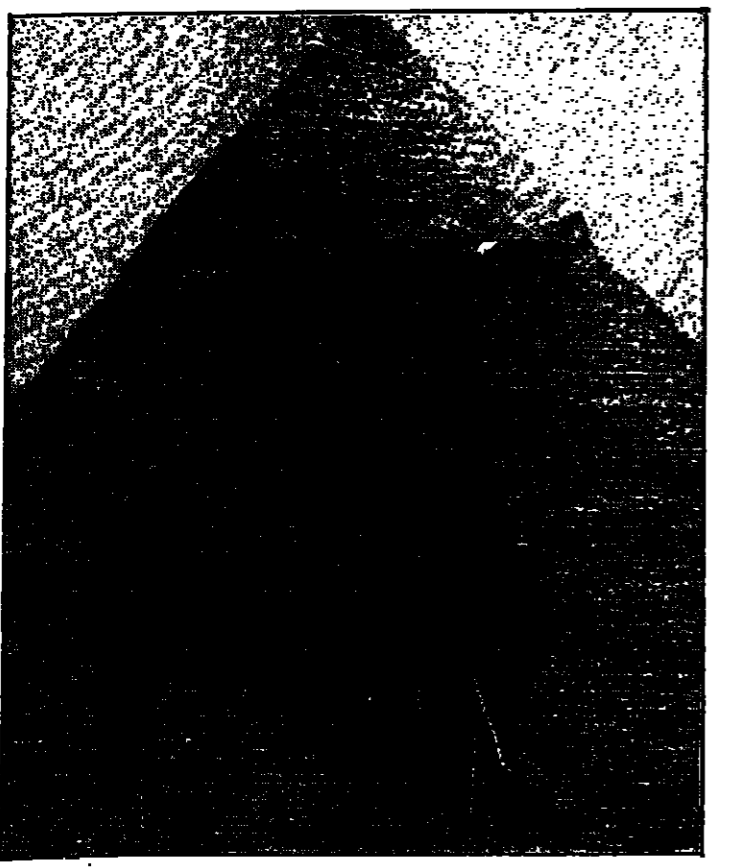
told delegates meeting at a hotel in the Paris suburb of Evry. "Everything with us must be open, everyone must be heard. But democracy is not the end, it is the means, the means to a brighter future for China."

The new group will coordinate a variety of international Chinese organisations and support groups.

The federation plans to establish its headquarters in Paris, with branch offices in the United States and Hong Kong to solicit support from the estimated 36 million members of the Chinese diaspora.

At a news conference Sunday night, economist Chen Yizi told reporters that the group also would maintain contact with pro-democracy Chinese back home.

"We will send the truth to China by all available means, the media, exchange programmes. Even before we established our organisation there has been an organised resistance in China linked to our group," said Chen.



The Great Pyramid with the Sphinx in front

Pyramids spiritual for many, moneymakers for Egypt

By Mimi Mann
The Associated Press

GIZA PLATEAU, Egypt — Some chant. Some meditate. Some dance. Some sit in the lotus position and hum.

Every year hundreds of seekers of the occult trek to Giza plateau to absorb the mystical forces said to be inside the pyramids of Pharaohs Cheops, Chephren and Mycerinus.

Believers say pyramid power can cure a host of ills, give glimpses into the future, provide a better night's sleep and even halt ageing. And it's all been free for the taking, included in the price of a tourist ticket to the pyramids, three Egyptian pounds (\$1.20).

Until now.

Under new rules, pyramid aficionados need more than their faith in the supernatural to tap into the pyramid mainline. They also need money.

Zahi Hawass, Giza plateau's director general, said groups of

up to 15 people are allowed "to meditate or seek extrasensory powers" in the pyramids for 1,000 Egyptian pounds (\$400) and only outside normal tourist hours. Each extra participant pays 50 pounds (\$20).

Newly installed television monitors allow inspectors to stop group meditation during regular hours to prevent clogging of narrow passageways and chambers.

Hawass said seven to eight groups ask permission each month to conduct seances inside the pyramids. Most want to spend the night inside or to enter at the first rays of dawn.

"In the U.S. and elsewhere, you have a lot of people with problems, and these people are seeking solutions. They look to the supernatural, and they think of the pyramids," Hawass said.

"But we can't let these groups interfere with tourists wanting to look at the pyramids from a historical or architectural standpoint."

Hawass said the most active pyramid-visiting mystical groups in the United States include the Edgar Cayce Foundation, which is dedicated to the study of the American psychic who died in 1945. Cayce taught that the secrets of Atlantis and knowledge of the future are buried under the right front paw of the Sphinx at the foot of Giza plateau.

In addition to Americans, theme cruises are organised in Europe, and growing numbers of Japanese tourists come to Giza especially to "tap pyramid power," Hawass said.

"This pyramid power stuff is really big," he said. "People want to believe in magic, and big structures give an air of magic. I'm sure if I called myself the pyramid prophet, I could have a following larger than the most famous Indian guru."

Built about 4,600 years ago, the pyramids remain enigmas to scientists as well as to seekers of the unknown.

The first person to enter the great Pyramid of Cheops in post-Pharaonic times was the caliph of Baghdad, Abdullah Al Ma'mun, in 820 A.D. He forced his way in by heating rocks, then breaking them by pouring on vinegar.

As generations of scientists, tourists, eccentrics and treasure hunters followed him, pyramid mystique grew over the ages.

Perhaps the most famous personality to enter in search of the occult was Napoleon Bonaparte, who spent the night of Aug. 12, 1799, inside Cheops' pyramid and emerged ashen and shaken.

He went to the grave in 1821 without telling what he experienced.

"What's the use? Napoleon was said to have told a friend. 'You wouldn't believe me anyway.'"

Hawass said many people, especially in the United States, have ideas and theories about the Giza pyramids, particularly

Cheops' great pyramid. "They read that Cheops is made of 2.3 million blocks, each one weighing two-and-a-half tonnes to 15 tonnes, each side at an angle of 51 degrees, 50 minutes and 35 seconds," he said.

"They think nobody on earth could have built this; that the pyramids were built by people from outer space, or survivors from the lost continent of Atlantis."

Hawass, who has a doctorate in Egyptology from the University of Pennsylvania, said he'd never heard of pyramid power until he went there in 1977.

"I was speaking to an audience in Hartford, Connecticut, and as I began to talk, everyone in the front row held a pyramid above his head," he recalled. "I asked, 'what are you doing?' and they explained about power trapped inside the shape of a pyramid."

"OK. I try to be open-minded."

COLUMN

Paloma lets secret out

NEW YORK (AP) — The photographs are well known: The great Pablo Picasso playing on the beach with his young daughter, Paloma, or swimming in the Mediterranean. Those shots were a bit misleading, Paloma says in the October issue of *Fame* magazine. "He would pretend to swim: he couldn't swim," the designer revealed, according to the magazine. "I haven't told many people that he was faking swimming." His mind was on his work but not all day long. "The minute he turned it on to work that was it. But then he would be on the beach for hours and hours." Gilot left Picasso in 1953 after living with him 10 years. The split occurred "in a very smooth way," Paloma said. "Immediately we went to spend holidays with my father so there wouldn't be a drastic break between life with him and life without him. He still had his house in Paris. We would go to the circus with him or spend a Sunday and then a holiday." As for biographers' accounts of Picasso's mental abuse of his mistresses, Paloma said: "Everything is always negative. But how could he be such a monster? Why would those women have stayed? No one forced them."

'Women cannot have it all'

VIRGINIA BEACH, Virginia (AP) — Television correspondent Barbara Walters says women cannot have it all — career, marriage and children — and she pointed to herself as an example. "You can have a great marriage and great children; great career and great career. But I think it is so hard to have a great marriage, a great career — not a job but a career — and great children," Walters told a conference of Virginia women. She advised the 2,100 women in the audience Monday not to feel guilty if they have trouble meeting the demands of career and family, and admitted it has not been so easy for her. "I've been divorced. I have a daughter, who, thank God, is 21 and out of her adolescence," said the 57-year-old ABC television correspondent and star of the "20/20" show. Walters advised the women to have a life beyond getting up in the morning and going to work, "although that can be pretty wonderful and intoxicating."

It's a bug-eat-bug world

VENTURA, California (AP) — It's a bug-eat-bug world for Jack and Jake Blehm. The father and son breed good insects to eat bad insects at Rincon Vitona, one of 15 "insectaria" in the United States. Every day, Rincon produces more than 80 million voracious critters, from ladybugs to wasps. Business has tripled in the past five years as farmers concerned about pesticides turn to natural options. Sales from the 15 insectaria total \$25 million a year, the Blehms say. Most insects are sold to cotton and vegetable growers, plus backyard farmers. "This is the future," said Ken Hagen, an entomologist at the University of California, Berkeley. "There is a great need. The farmers are desperate." They're so desperate that some universities are adding classes on integrated pest management — ways to hold down troublesome pests while cutting the use of pesticides. The Association of Applied Insects Ecologists, a trade group, is producing a video showing farmers how to work with such insects.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	13	15	68 Cloudy
ATHENS	17	28	62 Clear
BAHRAIN	26	33	81 Clear
BANGKOK	24	32	80 Clear
BEIJING	10	19	50 Clear
CAIRO	19	32	65 Clear
CHICAGO	02	35	32 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	13	21	54 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	17	23	64 Cloudy
GENEVA	18	23	64 Clear
HONG KONG	13	18	54 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	17	23	64 Clear
LONDON	15	21	60 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	17	29	65 Cloudy
MADRID	13	25	55 Clear
MECCA	28	42	82 Clear
MONTREAL	08	29	48 Cloudy
MOSCOW	08	21	46 Clear
NEW DELHI	25	32	77 Clear
NEW YORK	08	27	47 Clear
PARIS	08	20	48 Clear
ROME	13	28	54 Clear
SEOUL	18	24	64 Clear
TOKYO	14	22	56 Cloudy
VIENNA	14	22	56 Cloudy